Reviewer's report

Title: Duloxetine for the Long-Term Treatment of Major Depressive Disorder in Patients Aged 65 and Older: An Open-Label Study

Version: 1 Date: 20 June 2004

Reviewer: Javaid I Sheikh

Reviewer's report:

General

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

Couple of minor points:
1. It is not clear how the decision of increasing the dose from 40 mg b.i.d. to 60 mg b.i.d. was made. Was it purely on the basis of clinical need or was it a-priori scheduled?

2. It will be helpful to see whether there was a difference in response or remission rates, and adverse effects between the two doses.

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes

Declaration of competing interests:

I have received research funding from Eli Lilly during the time mentioned above. I do not have any other financial interest.