Author's response to reviews

Title: Psychiatric disorders and clinical correlates of suicidal patients admitted to a psychiatric center in Tokyo

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Dr. Melissa Norton, M.D., Editor-in-Chief of BMC Psychiatry

We are herewith re-submitting the manuscript entitled “Psychiatric disorders and clinical correlates of suicidal patients admitted to a psychiatric center in Tokyo” for publication as a research article in the Journal of “BMC Psychiatry”. Lengths of the abstract and the text sections of this manuscript are 277 words and 3421 words, respectively.

In this work, we investigated the diagnoses and clinical characteristics of a sample of suicidal patients consecutively admitted to a psychiatric facility, on which patient population the number of studies has been insufficient.

On the basis of the recommendation of the BMC Psychiatry associate editor to incorporate the summary of our 2009 publication, the title of which was very similar to that of the present submission, and to make the difference clearer, we have revised the manuscript.

The amendments are as follows.

Abstract Background Section of the previous manuscript

“Background

Psychiatric patients admitted with suicidal behavior (SB) are at high risk of suicide and need to be subjected to strenuous investigation. However, the number of studies
that have addressed this patient population remains insufficient. The purpose of this study is to determine the diagnoses and clinical characteristics of a sample of newly admitted suicidal psychiatric patients in a metropolitan area of Japan.”

**The revised section** (The underlined part is added to make the objective of the study clearer)

“Background

Patients admitted to a psychiatric hospital with suicidal behavior (SB) are considered to be especially at high risk of suicide. However, the number of studies that have addressed this patient population remains insufficient compared to that of studies on suicidal patients in emergency or medical settings. The purpose of this study is to seek distinctive features of a sample of newly admitted suicidal psychiatric patients in a metropolitan area of Japan.”

**The last sentence of Background Section of the previous manuscript**

“In the present study, we attempt to illuminate the diagnoses and clinical features of suicidal patients admitted to a psychiatric facility in a metropolitan area of Japan by conducting extensive psychiatric evaluation with structured interviews.”

**The corresponding part of the revised manuscript** (the last sentence of the previous manuscript was replaced the following paragraph. The underlined part summarizes the result of our previous report. SB means suicidal behavior.)

“To remedy the situation, we conducted extensive psychiatric evaluation of suicidal patients admitted to a psychiatric center in a metropolitan area of Japan by applying structured interviews, and in the previous report⁹, showed a potential role of some clinical and pre-SB characteristics in the development of SB. In the present study,
we attempt to illuminate the distinctive diagnostic and clinical features of this sample of psychiatric suicidal patients.”

We appreciate your review of this work.
Sincerely,

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