Reviewer’s report

Title: Depression and loneliness in Jamaicans with sickle cell disease

Version: 1 Date: 22 March 2010

Reviewer: Kai Morgan

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ALL ARE MINOR ESSENTIAL REVISIONS

INTRO / LIT REVIEW
1. Was concise and to the point yet fully explanatory of all aspects of the study. However, Lipps & Lipps & Lowe have done some work on loneliness in Jamaicans…you might find his findings worthy of some mention here.

METHODOLOGY
2. More information on how the depression score of 17 was established as the cutoff

RESULTS
3. Mean depression scores = 9.19 and 6.4 for controls…would have been good to report scores of “depressed” categories as these were significantly different
4. Pearson’s correlation between the 2 scales was 0.39…what were you trying to suggest here? That it provides evidence of convergent? Discriminant validity?

DISCUSSION
5. Again very concise and to the point. Hypothesis was sufficiently addressed and results discussed.

Generally, the article was easy to follow and the content was novel for its environs. The results showed much potential for health care workers to address quality of life in their SCD patients. Very informative and worthy study.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I DECLARE THAT I HAVE NO COMPETING INTERESTS