Reviewer’s report

Title: Familial association of neurological soft signs in schizophrenia: a systematic review and meta-analysis

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Reviewer: Raymond Chan

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Major Compulsory Revisions

This is an interesting review paper using meta analysis on assessing the familial association of the prevalence of neurological soft signs in nonpsychotic first-degree relatives of schizophrenia. Unfortunately, there is a most recent meta-analysis published in Neuroscience and Biobehavioral Reviews by Chan et al. (2010). Neurological soft signs in non-psychotic first-degree relatives of patients with schizophrenia: A systematic review and meta-analysis, 34, 889-896. In Chan et al.’s paper, they addressed the same questions of the authors of this manuscript using meta analysis and have included more studies in the analysis. The major findings have shown the NSS differences yielded a mean effect size of 0.81 for schizophrenia patients and their non-psychotic relatives and 0.97 for non-psychotic relatives of schizophrenia patients and healthy controls. Therefore, the authors of this manuscript must address something new in addition to the NBR paper I mentioned.