Reviewer's report

Title: Do general practitioners and psychiatrists agree about defining cure from depression? The DESCRIBE survey

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Reviewer: Daniela Krause

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Demyttenaere and colleagues investigated how cure from depression is defined by physicians and whether their attitude about depression alters their prescription practice. The findings of this study give a clear impression on what is relevant for general practitioners in comparison to psychiatrists when they have to decide how to treat a depressed patient.

The paper is very well written and structured.

I have only a few minor revisions:

Background: Please provide a clear definition of remission (cure) that is commonly used to declare remission from depression in the scientific field. Then the aim of the study that physicians were asked what they thought was important in defining cure in patients with depression, becomes then more obvious.

Methods: page 7: For the 51 item questionnaire 6 scales (e.g. PHQ-somatic) were included. Please provide a rationale why especially these scales were chosen.

Statistical analysis: A ranking of the 51 items was performed. Explain the criteria what made an item important.

Discussion: The citation of Mrs McGoey’s statement on RCTs seems to general and attention seeking in the discussion.

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest 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