Reviewer's report

Title: Restraint of appetite and reduced regional brain volumes in anorexia nervosa: a voxel-based morphometric study

Version: 2 Date: 26 September 2011

Reviewer: Andreas Joos

Reviewer's report:

the revised manuscript is improved;

I suggest some further minor revisions:

Introduction
- hypotheses: style a-c: this might be improved for better readability
- references: "Direct comparisons and differential brain volume differences in the ACC have been found between AN and women with bulimia nervosa, e.g. [17] : this is a mrs study........(quite similarly this ref. is mentioned in the discussion: the authors should have a look at their refe. altogether)

Discussion:
- the paper would profit form a comparision with the other 4 vbmstudies in AN noting similarities and dissimil.;
- "In the AN group, there was a lower GMV in the right anterior insular cortex, which was also seen in the RAN vs. BPAN comparison. Such reductions have previously been reported in 11 women with AN [5, 20] and, furthermore, that they remain following recovery [16]." paper [20,16] do not focus on the insula....... Limitations:
- the authors decided not to include the lowest life time bmi in their statistics: this might be mentioned as a major limitation (- rather than mentioning this point throughout the manuscript)

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.