Reviewer's report

**Title:** Chronic Depression: Development and Evaluation of the Luebeck Questionnaire for Recording Preoperational Thinking (LQPT)

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 27 September 2011

**Reviewer:** Ulrich Palm

**Reviewer's report:**

The article deals with a new questionnaire for preoperative thinking which is a major target in patients with chronic depressive disorders. As psychotherapeutic treatment of chronic depressive disorders is an urgent question and is not adequately represented in the literature, this paper makes an timely and necessary contribution for the non-pharmacologic diagnostic/treatment of this therapy resistant patient group.

The paper is well written and the authors seemed to have made strong efforts in contacting James McCullough for his support in the development of the questions to be asked.

The background information is concise and focuses on the developmental theory. However, the authors could add a synopsis of the relevant literature regarding diagnostic tools of chronic depression - for better understanding the lack of adequate tools and a better emphasizing of the necessity of their questionnaire.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

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