Reviewer's report

Title: The Relationship, Structure and Profiles of Schizophrenia Measurements: A Post-hoc Analysis of the Baseline Measures from a Randomized Clinical Trial

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Reviewer: Raffaele Popolo

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MINOR ESSENTIAL REVISIONS

Background:

Can you insert any example to show as "different measurement scales ... may have some overlap in the constructs they measure"?

Can you explain what you want to say with "conceptual overlap"?

It is not clear the last goal of the study: is the purpose of characterize "a parsimonious set of underlying conceptual domains " to consent the choice of adequate assessment tools?

Study subjects:

How do you have formulated the diagnoses? There isn't the number of patients (in the text). Are they inpatients or outpatients? Could you indicate how many recruited patients have concluded the evaluation? These information are useful to verify if the severity can bias the distribution of symptoms and functions in the domains (is it a homogeneous sample for severity?). Did you exclude any patients?

Assessment scales:

Could you explain the reason of the choice of each scale (self-reported vs clinician-rated instrument)? In peculiar for the evaluation of the cognitive functions. Can you explain better what you want to say with "exogenous variables" and "endogenous variables" (theoretical background).

Discussion and conclusion.

"BACS-SCT the was not significantly related to any of the clinical or functional measures evaluated in this study": have you got a hypothesis that explains this result?

The search show that "researchers should collect given across psychopathology, functioning/ daily living and subjective well-being": how these results could they bias the choice of tools for an economic and adequate evaluation? Have you got a proposal, beginning from the measures of this study? Otherwise at the end of the article we will have a simple description of domains of schizophrenia to study, another way for describing schizophrenia like "complex, multidimensional disorder."
Do you retain that the cognitive functions must be studied by other tools for appraise their relations with the advised domains?

Limits:
Why haven't you used tools of evaluation of theory of mind? Metacognition seems to be a mediator among the cognitive function and social functioning; cognitive and metacognitive functions seem to subtend different aspects of psychotic picture.
It could be useful to remember the difficulty to find tools in degree of depict the experience of illness of the psychotics patients in objective way.
They are missing references to the insight.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests