Review:
"The effect of ethnicity on prescribing practice and treatment outcome in inpatients suffering from schizophrenia in Greece"

This is an interesting study that addresses ethnic bias in prescription practices among a fairly large population (n=153) of Greek and non-Greek inpatients (F2x.x) in the Athens area. The authors report mainly a negative finding with respect to potential prejudice-induced differences in treatment and clinical outcomes (measured by GAF and BPRS-E scales), thus refuting their initial expectation of a higher prescription frequency of typical antipsychotic in immigrant patient populations. However, they found differences in the prescription of SSRIs/SNRIs between their study groups, which they attributed to lacking financial resources in the non-Group to adhere to long-term medication upon discharge from the hospital. In summary, they authors interpret their negative results in terms of ethnic bias not playing a major role in the medication prescriptions of the doctors involved in the study.

The following weaknesses in the current presentation of the study should be addressed in order to improve the quality of the paper:

1. The authors should give the manuscript to a native English-speaker for a thorough language review
2. A major limitation of the current study is that the prescribing doctors were aware "that their clinical judgments would be used in a study about medication". This limitation should be discussed by the authors as a possible reason for their negative findings.
3. The no./percentages of F2x.x diagnoses among the Greek and non-Greek groups should be summarized in a table. Furthermore, additional clinical parameters should be listed including markers of chronicity in both patient populations (duration of illness, no./percentages of first / recurrent episode patients). Moreover, the study would gain from a detailed analysis of the countries of origin in the immigrant group (this is particularly important with respect to the communicative skills in this population, as discussed by the authors).
4. No correction of multiple comparisons has been applied (12 hypotheses have been tested). Use e.g. Holm's sequential method.
5. There seems to be a non-significant gender imbalance between the study groups. I would suggest to correct the statistical analysis for this parameter.

6. Were the doctors all of Greek origin? Do they come from families with a migration background? Please provide detailed information.

**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.