Reviewer's report

**Title:** Psychological treatment of depressive symptoms in Chinese elderly inpatients with significant medical comorbidity: A meta-analysis

**Version:** 2 **Date:** 5 April 2011

**Reviewer:** Martin Pinquart

**Reviewer's report:**

The revised manuscript has adequately responded to the main suggestions of the reviewers. I have some minor suggestions for a further improvement of the manuscript.

1. Abstract section: Please make clear that the odds ratio refer to effects on somatic symptoms. Otherwise, readers will think that you refer to depressive symptoms.

2. I did not like the suggestion of another reviewer to replace the term "somatic disorder" by "significant medical comorbidity." (What would be an insignificant medical comorbidity?) It would be necessary to define the term in your manuscript as early as possible.

3. The description how effect sizes for somatic symptoms (odds ratios) were computed has to be part of the Methods section (under the heading Meta-analysis) and not of the Results section.

**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

'I declare that I have no competing interests'