Reviewer's report

Title: Clinical and Psychosocial Remission in Schizophrenia: Treatment Variables.

Version: 2 Date: 7 June 2012

Reviewer: Marina Kukla

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions--

• Original review: Please provide some discussion/rationale for the design of the study/analytic strategy focusing on a between-groups comparison based on antipsychotic medication. As stated above, this does not seem to flow directly from the stated aim of the study—to characterize symptomatic vs. psychosocial remission using two new measures derived from existing measures.

  o The authors still do not adequately address this issue. In the Abstract and Background section, they clearly sell this paper as an examination of symptomatic vs. psychosocial remission with little mention of antipsychotic medications. Yet, this paper is actually a between-groups comparison of antipsychotic medications/administration methods on the outcome of remission. This should be discussed and made clear early on. As the reader, I am left confused as to what this paper is really about.

Minor Essential Revisions--

• Original Review: Where is the data analysis section? Please add a section stating what statistical analyses were run pertinent to the study aims. I am lost reading the "Results" section without a data analysis section.

  o The authors have added a data analysis section, however, it is under-specified. They mention the tests they used, however, do not specify exactly which variables were tested in each analysis. In addition, they do not explain why non-parametric tests were used instead of parametric tests (I'm assuming that the data were skewed, but they do not say this).

  • Original Review: Please provide means and standard deviations pertaining to symptomatic and psychosocial remission for the remission/no remission groups based on antipsychotic, probably best presented in a table.

  o While the authors do provide descriptives on the non-remitted sample, they do not discuss remission status according to antipsychotic medications; given that this is the main data analysis (comparison of remitted vs. non-remitted according to type of anti-psychotic), this data is very important to report. It would be helpful to see in a Table, so that the remitted vs. non-remitted groups may be directly compared.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.