Reviewer's report

Title: Internet-based psychoeducation for bipolar disorder: feasibility, acceptability and impact.

Version: 2 Date: 17 August 2012

Reviewer: Britta Bernhard

Reviewer's report:

No Revision

Congratulations for this very interesting work which certainly required quite an investment of time to complete.

Next to the trials that are researching relapse prevention and reduction of symptoms, it is also important to research which elements of intervention programs can help improve the illness. This work shows how important it is to ask the patients themselves what elements they profited from and their suggestions about limitations and what they had missed in the program. The discussion about the pros and cons of internet based training is very important and shows that the patients' needs are different. Ideally, this would result in newly diagnosed patients given the choice to either participate in face-to-face settings or via an internet based training. In Germany most of the hospitalized patients are offered to take part in a psychoeducational group. However, there are only limited options for non-hospitalized patients.

The question posed by the authors is well defined, the methods of the interview are appropriate and well described, the data is sound, the manuscript does adhere to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition, the discussion and conclusions are well balanced and adequately supported by the data as possible in qualitative work, limitations of the work are clearly stated, the authors do clearly acknowledge any work upon which they are building, both published and unpublished, the title and abstract do accurately convey what has been found and the writing is acceptable.

Level of interest: An exceptional article

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