Reviewer's report

Title: Psychometric properties of the Cardiac Depression Scale in patients with coronary heart disease

Version: 1 Date: 1 October 2012

Reviewer: Alisa A O'Riley

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions

1) The major limitation of this study was the use of a small sample size. In particular, it seems likely that the factor analysis conducted in this study was underpowered. The researchers should provide evidence that this was not the case or discuss this limitation and its effects on the interpretation of their data in the discussion section of the manuscript.

Minor Essential Revisions

1) In the Measures section, under the heading "Quality of Life" the term "a coefficients" should be replaced with "alpha coefficients."
2) Similarly, in the Measures section, under the heading Social support the term "a coefficients" should be replaced with "alpha coefficients."
3) In the second line of Table 2 the "i" needs to be capitalized in the statement "Things I regret..."

Discretionary Revisions

1) More elaboration is needed explaining why the authors believe it is important to validate the CDS in a sample that has been discharged for 3.5 months--e.g. I there data suggesting the depression changes in patients after cardiac hospitalizations?

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 have no competing interests.