Reviewer’s report

**Title:** Internalized stigma among patients with schizophrenia in Ethiopia: a cross-sectional facility-based study

**Version:** 2  **Date:** 17 October 2012

**Reviewer:** Philip T Yanos

**Reviewer’s report:**

The authors addressed many of the comments. There are some minor modifications, indicated below, that would further improve the manuscript.

**Major Compulsory Revisions:**
- None

**Minor Essential Revisions:**
- **Background:** The authors added a definition and more thorough explanation of research on self-stigma/internalized stigma. But their initial definition of "internalized stigma" is not wholly consistent with the typical definition in the literature (page 4)
- The question the authors used to evaluate whether or not stigma contributed to discontinuation of meds is very leading. This method is fine, since that’s a difficult question to assess for a variety of reasons, but it’s important to discuss this as a weakness more clearly in the limitations section.
- **Results:** authors say that “stigma was the most important factor for their decision to discontinue their medication”—but in the methods there’s no evidence that they asked about other factors. So either methods need to be clarified, or this sentence needs to be rephrased.

**Discretionary Revisions:**
- **Background:** the authors indicate that exploring stigma across cultures is important, but didn’t really touch on any theory for why. May be that there’s not enough space for this?
- **Results:** The sentences on impact of education on stigma phrased in a contradictory way (p.15)

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

**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.
Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.