Reviewer's report

Title: Quality of life is predictive of relapse in schizophrenia

Version: 1 Date: 31 January 2012

Reviewer: Kelly Buck

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions
1. Is the question posed by the authors well defined? The question as defined by the authors conceptualizes a "relapse" in illness terms and totally neglects the recovery literature as it relates to schizophrenia. Authors such as Silverstein and Bellack, Lysaker and Buck, for example, have written extensively on recovery and quality of life. Many authors, such as Mike Slade, no longer even use the term "relapse" and instead think of it in more neutral terms, such as crisis. Unfortunately, this important literature has been neglected and would greatly add to the discussion of results and may add some light in thinking about their interpretation in a different manner.

5. Are the discussion and conclusions well balanced and adequately supported by the data? No, this is where the authors need to put in more work by more extensively researching the literature on recovery and metacognition which would help with their discussion and conclusions. Their data may be interpreted differently after adding this current literature.

7. Do the authors clearly acknowledge any work upon which they are building, both published and unpublished? Yes, but I believe their review of literature is not complete and leaves out current thinking.

2. Are the methods appropriate and well described? Yes

3. Are the data sound? Yes

4. Does the manuscript adhere to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition? Yes

6. Are limitations of the work clearly stated? See above regarding discussion on relapse.

8. Do the title and abstract accurately convey what has been found? See above.

9. Is the writing acceptable? The writing was easy to follow, cogent, and well-organized.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the
statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

'I declare that I have no competing interests'