Reviewer's report

Title: Malingering and PTSD: Detecting malingering and war related PTSD by M-FAST

Version: 4 Date: 19 June 2012

Reviewer: Zahava Solomon

Reviewer's report:

Following your invitation I have read the manuscript entitled "Malingering and PTSD: Detecting malingering and war related PTSD by M-FAST".

This interesting paper deals with a most important issue, namely malingering of PTSD.

The study compares clinical diagnosis of PTSD made by psychiatrists with self report measure M-Fast. The sample comprises of 120 psychiatric patients with "war related PTSD".

The strengths of the study are: a relatively large (n=120) Iranian sample, Blind assessments and the use of standardized measures.

At the same time several issues should be addressed and clarified:

(1) A more detailed description of the sample and particularly what is implied by "war related PTSD" (combat? Captivity? Accidents?)

(2) The psychometric properties of the M-Fast in its Iranian version are called for. Was back translation carried out?

(3) The discussion should be elaborated and particularly unique cultural aspects should be discussed.

(4) Finally, the manuscript could benefit from editing.

Thank you for sending me the interesting manuscript for review.

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: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.