Reviewer's report

Title: Odor naming and interpretation performance in 881 schizophrenic subjects: Association with clinical parameters

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Reviewer: Dolores Malaspina

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Olfactory processing is an intriguing modality that is vastly understudied with respect to sensory processing and cognitive capacities in healthy subjects and those with psychiatric disorders. This excellent work advances the field, showing the utility of such tests to probe sensory- cognitive processing in schizophrenia by including more nuanced arrays of olfactory and cognitive tests. In addition to odor naming they employ odor interpretation tasks to test associations with emotional processing, cognition and disease outcome. The results showed odor naming deficits to be very strongly related to the cognitive deficits. They may thus be developed as sensitive biomarkers for cognition.

The work is highly developed in methodology and comprehensive in essential elements with a well developed but focussed discussion.

My only concern is th use of "gender" rather than "sex" for male and female participants. The former is biologically correct.

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

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"