Reviewer's report

Title: Clinical characteristics in schizophrenia patients with or without suicide attempts and non-suicidal self-harm - a cross-sectional study

Version: 3 Date: 16 July 2013

Reviewer: Graham Pluck

Reviewer's report:

The manuscript is good and reports the findings fairly clearly. I have just a couple of discretionary revisions.

1. In Tables 1 and 2 you have occasionally used a 'not equal to' sign, instead of a 'greater than' or 'smaller than'. I'm not sure why this is, unless there is a good statistical reason consider using the other signs for consistency (as you have with other Chi2 tests).

2. Page 13, 2nd paragraph. The phrase 'We could rather speculate' sounds odd. Perhaps it would be better as 'Rather we could speculate' (or perhaps you mean 'We would rather speculate').

3. Check the reference list for consistency. For example, I noticed that a full journal name is used for Ref 4, but the rest seem to be abbreviated.

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

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