Reviewer's report

Title: Cognitive behaviour therapy response and dropout rate across purging and nonpurging Bulimia Nervosa and Binge Eating disorders: DSM-5 implications

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Reviewer: Eva Osório

Reviewer's report:

This paper addresses an understudied aspect related with the bulimic-spectrum syndromes (differences in the treatment responses and in the treatment dropout), aspects that can be useful to the study of the boundaries across these syndromes, what is a current and useful debate.

I have only minor essential revisions to suggest:

Overall, this was a well-designed and conducted investigation.

The methods appear appropriate and the data sound; the clinical assessment and the experimental approach seemed very professional. The title and abstract convey the point of the study.

It would be important to specify what kind of treatments the patients did before and if they were medicated with psychotropic drugs during the study.

Where is written “Socio-demographic characteristics” it would be more correct to write “Socio-demographic characteristics and information regarding eating disorders”, since the authors also write characteristics related with eating disorders: body mass index, age of onset...

In the discussion section, I think the authors should discuss other hypotheses to explain the “higher dropout rates in BED group”. Why would it be expected that “the rapid response of symptom reduction (binges reduction in the first treatment sessions)” could be related with a higher dropout rate? If their “own motivation” to the treatment was similar to the BN-P group why they showed a higher dropout rate?

The authors also hypothesize that the higher dropout rates in the BED group could be related with the “lack of weight lost while on treatment” – where is the weight loss quantified? Should it be expected that the BED group showed a lack of weight loss if they had the better response to the treatment?

The authors discuss in a relevant way the limitations of the study, since the psychiatric co-morbidity could explain some results.

The authors should complete the list of abbreviations, since it does not include all the abbreviations present in the paper (SCID-I, BN, DSMIV-TR, BMI, EDNOS...).
Level of interest: An article of importance 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.