Reviewer's report

Title: Personality dimensions of schizophrenia patients compared to control subjects by gender and the relationship with illness severity

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Reviewer: Bethany Leonhardt

Reviewer's report:

This is a well written and interesting article.

Major Compulsory revisions:

1. The authors name what each of the personality dimensions are in the beginning, but do not offer explanations of what each facet is. While it may seem obvious what each component is referring to, there are numerous ways these titles could be interpreted, and if readers are unfamiliar with the TCI they may not know what each scale is really measuring and be able to imagine how these factors impact outcomes for individuals with schizophrenia. It would be helpful to include such descriptions in the beginning of the article.

2. On a similar note to point 1, it would be helpful to summarize the profiles the authors found for each sex in the discussion section. It would be helpful for clinicians working with individuals with schizophrenia if each profile were described and then the different correlational items noted. For example, including something such as "males with schizophrenia tend to be high in (trait), which describes someone who is .... this has also been shown to be correlated with higher rates of hospitalization, etc.

3. The authors use the term "gender" throughout the article, however, gender is often thought to be a social construct or identity that individuals make for and identify themselves. It seems that the authors are looking at differences amongst the sexes (a more biological concept than gender) and thus language should be changed accordingly or the authors need to identify earlier on in the paper what they are meaning by using the term gender.

Minor Essential Revisions:

1. I would suggest making a second paragraph toward the end of page 12 that deals specifically with treatment outcomes and these personality profiles the authors have identified. This seems like a particularly important element of the paper and should be highlighted and easy to identify. It may be helpful to include a heading.

No Discretionary Revisions noted.

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 I have no competing interests.