Reviewer's report

Title: Health Beliefs and Carer Burden in First Episode Psychosis

Version: 3 Date: 22 May 2014

Reviewer: Irwin Rosenfarb

Reviewer's report:

This is a significantly improved manuscript. I have only a few specific suggestions:

p. 2 I suggest the first sentence of the conclusions read, “The type of burden experienced by carers…was related to their health beliefs.” Also, outcome is one word.

p. 4 last paragraph first sentence, I suggest, “This study will therefore address gaps in the knowledge base for predictors of carer burden.”

p. 5. Patient measures: the measure is Beck Anxiety Inventory.

p. 7. Why was the non-parametric Mann-Whitney U test used instead of a t test?

p. 9. It might be interesting to also report correlations between subscales of the CBI and patient factors and correlations between the MHLC and patient factors.

p. 10 first para. It would be good if the authors could also include an alternative explanation of the findings, namely that perceived burden may have influenced illness perceptions.

p. 10 second para. Second sentence is written awkwardly.

p. 10 Ukpong’s findings do not seem related to these findings as that study did not examine locus of control.


p. 12 first sentence. I’d replace the word “run” with “compute.”

Tables: I would explain all acronyms used in a footnote. Also, please include the n for each group in all the Tables.

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: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests.