Author's response to reviews

Title: Telomere shortening in leukocyte subpopulations in depression

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Resubmission of our manuscript

Dear Dr. Murray

Please find attached our revised manuscript “Telomere shortening in leukocyte subpopulations in depression”, which we submit for publication in *BMC Psychiatry*.

We removed the figure from the manuscript and now provide it in a separate file.

We believe that depression having an effect on telomere length investigated not in peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMC) but in selected cells of the adaptive immune system should be of interest to readers from a wide range of scientific backgrounds and stimulate more research on telomere shortening and immunological aging in many diverse psychiatric conditions in this field of research. This knowledge would help to better understand the consequences of depression on immunity.

The material in our manuscript is original research and has not been previously published and has not been submitted for publication elsewhere. The authors declare no conflict of interest.

We are looking forward to hearing from you.

Best regards

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