Author's response to reviews

Title: Prevalence of Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder Among Adults in Obesity Treatment

Authors:

Jules R Altfas (jaltfas@earthlink.net)

Version: 3 Date: 18 Jul 2002

Prevalence of Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder Among Adults in Obesity Treatment

Manuscript changes: 2002-7-17

Abstract revised to have length 250 words.

Section headings changed to BioMed Central standard headings.

Method section revised.
Diagnostic procedure described in greater detail regarding criteria used, nature of diagnostic interviews, presence of comorbid conditions, ADHD subtypes, and an expanded statement of reasons for using modified age of onset of ADHD criterion.

Results section revised.
Changed presentation of statistical results (ANOVA) to reduce confusion.
Added two tables to make it easier to follow presentation of results.
Omitted some redundant and confusing results (re: proportion of ADHD patients with Obesity III).
Provided SD for weight loss results for Obesity III subjects, and results of non-parametric test for Obesity III weight loss results.
Added non-parametric analyses of number of patient visits and months of treatment.

Discussion section revised.
Added estimate of effect sizes of ADHD on weight loss results of obesity treatment.
Clarified meaning of term '[lq]inefficiency'[rq] regarding ADHD patients' obesity treatment outcome.
Additional statistics were given (visits/month, BMI change/month, BMI change/visit).
A reference to data showing a high rate of ADHD symptoms in homeless veterans was omitted.
Discussion of limitations of results given in the report was considerably expanded. Additional discussion was included concerning diagnostic methods, potential contributions of subject biases to results, demographic characteristics of the sample, namely age and male:female ratio and possible implications for diagnosis.

Conclusion section revised.
Several statements were omitted because they were not relevant to the issues raised in the report, or were not supported by data presented in the report. The revision was also intended to emphasize the potential clinical value of the reports' subject as well as the need for further study of the questions before firm conclusions can be drawn.