Author's response to reviews

Title: High vitamin B12 level and good treatment outcome may be associated in major depressive disorder

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PDF covering letter
RESPONSES TO THE REVIEWERS:

REVIEWER Russell T Joffe

"Greater emphasis on the limits of the study esp. naturalistic treatment."
We discussed the shortcomings of our study in more detail, page 7, two last paragraphs.

REVIEWER David Mischoulon

"..authors may want mention Alpert et al…"
This reference has been added, ref 13.

"..authors should state a hypothesis.."
A hypothesis has been added, page 3, fourth paragraph.

"...authors might discuss whether differences in this population and previously studied ones could be due to whether patients were seen as inpatients or outpatients…"
This topic has been discussed, page 7 last paragraph.

"...clarify the wording of the correlation data.."
The wording of the correlation data has been rewritten. Page 5, results section.

"… clarify the rationale for using mean B12 level..."
The use of mean B12 level has been omitted.

"Clarify who treated the patients…How often they were seen…What medication adjustments were used..."
We have described these data in page 4, last paragraph.

"Did treatment variables associate with response?… Did presence of adjunct psychotherapy have an impact on response?"
These data have been presented in a new table (Table 2).

Did response associate with hematological indices?
These data have been presented in Table 1.