Reviewer's report

Title: Psychosocial Correlates with Depressive Symptoms Six years after a First Episode of Psychosis as Compared with Findings from a General Population Sample.

Version: 1 Date: 23 August 2004

Reviewer: Helen Herrman

Reviewer's report:

General

The question is a new and interesting approach to understanding the depression associated with psychosis. The question is well defined and a brief and relevant background provided. The question makes use of a particular and unusual opportunity to compare the results of a study of a cohort of persons 6 years after a first episode of psychosis (FEP) and the results of a population study (the PART study) in the Stockholm country of risk factors and social consequences of mental ill health.

The results are well described and the data appropriately analysed. The findings appear well derived from the data presented.

The discussion is relevant and appropriate to the question.

The conclusion is appropriately based on the findings of the study.

The title and abstract are adequate and accurate and the paper is well written.

I believe this article should be published.

-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

The methods are appropriate but require further explanation about the co-occurring PART study and clarification that for instance the questionnaire was replicated in follow-up of the FEP group.

-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

The discussion could usefully be augmented with an additional paragraph, before the final paragraph linking the findings with the understandings of depression in psychosis. This would then lead on to the relevant comments in the last paragraph that the results of the study support the goals of WHO in improving links between mental health services and community agencies.

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions
Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:

None