Reviewer's report

Title: Pretreatment Beck Depression Inventory score is an important predictor for Post-treatment Beck Depression Inventory score in infertile patients: a before after study

Version: 1 Date: 28 October 2004

Reviewer: Alice D Domar

Reviewer's report:

General

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

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

1. There are numerous instances where the use of English is awkward, such as the second sentence of the first paragraph and the first sentence of the second paragraph.
2. The authors use two sets of cut-off scores for the BDI (ie page 3 vs. 8). They need to ensure that the one they cite is the correct one.
3. The elimination of "eight from 10 patients" (page 3) is confusing.
4. The use of a beta hCg of over 200 to confirm pregnancy is not the standard for 11 days after embryo transfer. It is usually 100, or a viable heartbeat three weeks later.
5. It would be a stronger analysis to separate the IUI versus the IVF patients. These patients tend to have different psychological profiles.

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:

none