Reviewer’s report

Title: Insomnia in school-age children with Asperger syndrome or high-functioning autism.

Version: 4 Date: 15 March 2006

Reviewer: Luci Wiggs

Reviewer’s report:

General

I am happy that the suggested changes have been incorporated and, I think, the paper is improved as a result and look forward to seeing it in press!

I have one slight concern about the actigraphs of which I wasn’t aware previously. In the author’s response to Pekka Tani’s comments it is stated that four different actigraphy devices were used. This is potentially of significance and as such (especially since the paper explaining reasons for this is in press and therefore cannot be consulted) an explanation of precisely which devices were used (on how many children in which group (to enable the reader to make sense of the means/sds presented on page 16)) should be given and also details of how the data could be comparably scored (since different devices manufactured by different companies use different scoring algorithms and, of course, collect the data in quite a different way). Although this paper is not primarily about actigraphy, the fact that these data are included here I think it would be helpful to have more details about this method of measurement.

Related to this, I agree that the term 'set of actigraph' is totally ambiguous (especially since there is currently no mention of different 'sets' of actigraphs being used).

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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)

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

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What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests
Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:
'I declare that I have no competing interests'