Author's response to reviews

**Title:** The Adolescent Depression Rating Scale (ADRS): A validation study

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**Author's response to reviews:** see over
Dear Marcello Tamburini,

We are very pleased to submit to your journal our research article: “Adolescent Depression Rating Scale (ADRS): a validation study.”

This article presents the validation of a new measure of depression specifically designed for the 13 to 20 age subjects. Others instruments used for adolescent depression measure are not specific for adolescents, lack construct validity, and have limited or unknown reliability and validity in this age group.

We developed a clinician version and self-report version. The clinician measure is for research uses among health professionals, and the patient measure is intended to screen for depressive disorders both in clinical populations and in epidemiological research. This work is an international project, the first validation stage having been conducted in Europe in French language (validation among 409 adolescents), and validation in other languages is proceeding, and the results for the different languages will be available at the end of 2006 (English, Italian, Spanish, Arabic, Hebrew).

We are aware of the fact that youth depressive disorders are not only a challenge for children and adolescents psychiatrists, but also for health professionals.

We thank you in advance for your kind consideration of our work, and hope that you will find our paper suitable for publication in HQLO.

With our best regards.