Reviewer’s report

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

Version: 3 Date: 31 October 2006

Reviewer: Antonio Lobo

Reviewer’s report:

My recommendation, in summary, is to accept the paper with minor changes. I support this recommendation on the following points:

1. The authors have already done a considerable effort to re-write the original manuscript.

2. I agree that:
   a. This is an interesting article.
   b. Typographic errors should be corrected.

3. I suggest:
   a. To include in the Discussion a comment on the limitations related to the sample (point #1) and the qualitative phase (point #5).
   b. I think no comment is needed for point #2. I understand no adolescent was considered to fulfil DSM-IV criteria for depression and, at the same time, was not depressed according to the clinicians’ opinion. Probably there was some misunderstanding.
   c. I see no major problem with the inclusion of an "intermediate group".
   d. I think it is acceptable to do the work in France etc., and to report the work in English. This should just be clarified, also in the abstract and maybe in the title.
   e. The comments on points #6 through #10, related to the statistical analysis, may be sound, but they are rather stringent. The authors might consider commenting briefly on these points in the limitations.