Author's response to reviews

Title: A prospective study of monitoring practices for metabolic disease in antipsychotic-treated community psychiatric patients

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Editor

Thank you for the opportunity to submit a revised version of our manuscript. We are grateful for the reviewers’ comments which we have addressed (see below), and we agree that the manuscript is improved by the changes suggested by the reviewers.

Reviewer 1.
The inclusion/exclusion criteria are now briefly stated.
We have not converted glucose levels to mg/dl as many journals publish either mmol/l or mg/dl. Mmol/l is the convention for the UK.
We have now specified more clearly that the follow-up assessment was part of a planned 18-month (approx) prospective assessment.
We have included data on the prevalence of the metabolic syndrome at follow-up and specified that BP measurements were not available at baseline, and therefore MetSyn prevalence could not be calculated for comparison purposes.
The results section states that insulin resistance was "lower".
The data were analysed for significant outliers, and none was present.
The discussion has been shortened as suggested.

Reviewer 2
We have made it more explicit that fasting status was confirmed simply by asking the patients.
Unfortunately, data on family history of dyslipidaemia is not available.
We have added in the suggested references where appropriate.
Data on treatment for diabetes and hypertension is now included in table 2.

Reviewer 3
We agree that the section on medication was unwieldy, and this has now been incorporated into a new table (table 2) for ease of reading.
Inclusion/exclusion criteria have been riefly stated.
We have transferred the section on informing physicians of the baseline results to the Methods section as suggested.
Data on gender/ethnicity/diagnosis have been omitted from table 1 as suggested, and included in the text.

We hope you may now find our manuscript acceptable for publication and we look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully

Dr Paul Mackin