Author's response to reviews

Title: Tridimensional Personality Questionnaire data on alcoholic violent offenders: specific connections to severe impulsive cluster B personality disorders and violent criminality

Authors:

Roope Tikkanen (roope.tikkanen@helsinki.fi)
Matti Holi (matti.holi@hus.fi)
Nina Lindberg (nina.lindberg@hus.fi)
Matti Virkkunen (matti.virkkunen@hus.fi)

Version: 5 Date: 21 May 2007

Author's response to reviews:

Dear Dr. Parkin,

Please find below our responses to the reviewer's comments concerning manuscript "Tridimensional Personality Questionnaire data on alcoholic violent offenders: specific connections to severe impulsive cluster B personality disorders and violent criminality (1377682646115859).

We uploaded:
1. the final version of the paper and
2. a version where all changes made are visible (Microsoft-Word "Track changes" function).

Simone Ullrich's, PhD, repeated her concern that socio-economic status could bias the results. Even though Ullrich agreed that the majority of habitually violent offenders stem from lower socio-economic classes, we conclusively showed statistically the homogeneity in marital status and occupation between the main comparison groups (p. 7). Accordingly, we added these results to the Results-section and made minor changes in the limitation-passage.

Moreover, Ullrich iterated her opinion of the comorbidity of personality disorders. We would kindly want to underline that our aim was not to compare "purely" ASPD or non-ASPD offenders but rather examine this division in our sample of alcoholic violent offenders. Among this special population personality disorder comorbidities are frequent as shown in table 1 of the paper. To further clarify this matter we slightly edited the hypothesis linguistically at end of the Background-section.

We hope these revisions will serve the readers of the Journal.

Best regards, Roope Tikkanen, MD, with research group.