Reviewer's report

Title: Lack of cortisol response in patients with PTSD undergoing a diagnostic interview

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Reviewer: Clemens Kirschbaum

Reviewer's report:

This is a well-written report on a study investigating the effects of stressful vs. non-stressful interviews on HPA responses in traumatized individuals. The study is methodologically sound, the authors are respected experts in their fields.

Regarding the results, I was not surprised to see this non-responses on the basis of the literature (that is also cited by the authors). On the other hand, the trauma victims might have shown a small cortisol response to the "stressful" interview, but the response peaks may have been missed by the timing of saliva collection (intervals between samples were about an hour). So I am left with the question, what is the main message for the reader of this paper?

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, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.