Reviewer’s report

Title: Non-adherence to antipsychotic medication, relapse and rehospitalisation in recent-onset schizophrenia.

Version: 3 Date: 13 January 2008

Reviewer: Nina R Schooler

Reviewer’s report:

The revisions to the article based on the earlier review have been only to insert some of the comments regarding limitations into the text - using in fact the precise wording of the reviewer.

Some of the limitations of a given study cannot, of course be addressed. But in the present situation where all of the analyses are post-hoc, it would seem that some of the concerns could be addressed by examining the data further. I give two examples:

The question of differentiating between those who received first and second generation medications. although most prior studies have not found substantial differences in adherence between the two general classes, the distinction remains of interest - particularly for patients early in the course of their illness.

And the issue of distinguishing those who receive depot medications as opposed to oral agents. Although depot agents cannot assure adherence, assessing adherence for patients who receive depots is far simpler since nonadherence can be defined by missing injections. Thus assessment of adherence should distinguish these two situations as suggested by the earlier review.

What next?: Reject because too small an advance to publish

Level of interest: An article of insufficient interest to warrant publication in a scientific/medical journal

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.