Reviewer’s report

Title: Construction and validation of a dimensional scale exploring mood disorders: MAThyS (Multidimensional Assessment of Thymic States)

Version: 1 Date: 26 October 2007

Reviewer: Jose Sanchez-Moreno

Reviewer’s report:

General

Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

1. Written informed consent was obtained from participants and if the study was approved by the Ethics Committee.

2. It would be useful if the authors explain how sample size was determined.

3. Eligibility criteria for participants and the settings and location where the data were collected, specially the control and euthymic groups. Were the controls interviewed to discard axis I psychiatric disorders?

4. The authors should clarify criteria for acute episodes (mania, hypomania, depression or mixed) and euthymia.

5. The mean time to complete the MAThyS should be mentioned. This is helpful to be used in the clinical practice.

6. The authors should add a legend to clarify the figure 1.

7. The authors should modify and improve the table 2 separating the sociodemographic and clinical characteristics for each group at least controls and patients.

8. Given the limitation of this dimensional approach the authors should suggest how to improve the MAThyS

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:** Needs some language corrections before being published

**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.