Reviewer's report

Title: Duration and adherence to antidepressant treatment in immigrant and native-born populations in Spain: a four year follow-up descriptive study.

Version: 3 Date: 29 February 2012

Reviewer: Francisco Collazos

Reviewer's report:

1. Regarding the question posed by the authors, I think the difference between “compliance” and “adherence” is not clear enough. Actually, sometimes they are used “interchangeably”, leading to misunderstanding. It should be better conceptualized.

2. The method used to assess the adherence to antidepressant treatment is inferred from the amount/percentage of packs withdrawn after having been prescribed which is, at least in part, an indirect but imprecise way to evaluate adherence but not compliance.

3. I think the manuscript adheres to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition.

4. The discussion should include some kind of critique of how the diagnosis of “depression” was achieved. From a culturally sensitive point of view, some comments about the lack of universalism of the DSM-IV diagnosis criteria should be included.

5. Among the limitations of the work, some comments about the excessive generalization of the concept of “immigrants” should be included. I appreciate the efforts to incorporate some comments about the influence of culture on the notion of psychopharmacological treatments and so on, but the authors should have also comment on the difference that can be found not only between subjects from different cultural backgrounds but also between patients belonging to the same group.

6. The authors have a broad knowledge of the work upon which they are building, both published and unpublished.

7. I think the title and abstract do not accurately convey what has been found, due to a misuse of the terms “adherence” instead of “compliance”.

8. As my mother tongue is not English, I am not the most indicated to say whether or not the writing is acceptable.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable
**Statistical review:** Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

**Declaration of competing interests:**
I declare that I have no competing interests