Reviewer's report

Title: Type D personality is associated with impaired psychological status and unhealthy lifestyle in Icelandic cardiac patients: A cross-sectional study.

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Reviewer: Benjamin Chapman

Reviewer's report:

The authors have done an excellent job assessing all but 1 of my earlier points, and as a result the manuscript is tighter now. 1 concern lingers: the authors argue that a strictly categorical approach is warranted based on its compatibly with diagnostic categories in medicine. I am very sympathetic to such a typological approach, and they have even cited one of my previous papers calling for a rapprochement between type and trait approaches in personality and health research.

However, the critical point of that paper was that categorical and dimensional approaches provide complementary information, not that categorical approaches should be elevated to the point of not even considering dimensional/trait approaches in secondary analysis. Therefore, I am puzzled by the reluctance to even conduct a secondary analysis using the Type D continuum. No possible harm could come of it, and it will provide readers with a sense of the fully powered personality-outcome associations. If there is indeed no linear effect but instead a threshold one, this even suggests the type approach is particularly warranted. I am thus left perplexed by the authors’ apparent reluctance to even examine the continuous Type D score.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.