Reviewer's report

Title: Prevalence and psychopathological characteristics of depression in consecutive otorhinolaryngologic inpatients

Version: 2  Date: 15 March 2011

Reviewer: Fumiyuki Goto

Reviewer's report:

This study is the first study reporting prevalence rates in ORL on the basis of a diagnostic interview. This study is quite important.

Minor Essential Revisions

Results section
1) BDI score
I would like to know the score of BDI in both group of non-depressed and depressed patients.
2) I think the disorder like cancer would have significant impact on anxiety as well as depression. Except cancer, any disorder in this field is curable. Therefore I would like to see the prevalence of the subjects with cancer.
3) With respect to table 2,
Since the readers may be otorlaryngologists who are not familiar with psychiatric disorders, it is favorable to indicate the name of disorder in addition to ICD-10 code.

Discussion
In this study, female is more depressed than male. However I thought female were more significantly depressed than male in terms of prevalence and severity. If the author have any suggestions, it would be nice to describe.

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest 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.