Reviewer's report

Title: Nutrient- and non-nutrient-based natural health product (NHP) use in adults with mood disorders: Prevalence, characteristics and potential for exposure to adverse events

Version: 1 Date: 23 November 2012

Reviewer: Jerome Sarris

Reviewer's report:

This is a manuscript of interest to the field, which just needs some minor revisions

Major revisions: None

Minor essential revisions:

1) The phrase "Potentially exposing themselves to adverse effects from non-nutrient based NHPs" needs to be removed (in abstract and discussion etc.). This is a throw-away line with no evidence to support this. Also, the line on them being of greater potential concern...

AND in results and discussion sections "...could potentially lead to adverse effects". This is spurious.

2) Clarify in methods and results whether Bipolar 1 or 2, NOS or all, and whether depressive disorder is MDD

3) One element which is very interesting but neglected in the abstract and discussion, is the stats on co-use of medication with NHPs. Highlight more

4) Detail the sample size= 97 at the start of results

5) Table 1. "replacement or homeopathic preparations" f footnote- contains mostly calcium and potassium- check if this makes sense

Discretionary revisions:

Maybe a list showing DRIs of vits and mins could be incorporated into table 2

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:
No conflicts of interest