Reviewer’s report

Title: Efficacy of vitamin C as an adjunct to fluoxetine therapy in pediatric major depressive disorder: a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled pilot study

Version: 3 Date: 7 February 2013

Reviewer: Martha Payne

Reviewer’s report:

All previously-requested revisions have been addressed except #4 -
Minor Essential Revision

4. Participants (Results) – three subjects “withdrew from the trial due to noncompliance.” It is not clear what is meant by this. Were subjects removed from study due to noncompliance? Did they withdraw because they did not feel they could be compliant?

It is still unclear if the researchers "removed" these participants from study or if the participants themselves withdrew. Both "removed" and "withdrew" are used to describe these individuals. If subjects withdrew, then it is likely to be for a reason other than noncompliance (For example, they may have had an adverse experience which led to withdrawal - the adverse experience may have led to poor compliance but poor compliance would not be the reason for withdrawal).

An additional confusion relates to the number of individuals in each group who withdrew (or were removed). Methods section states 1 in vitamin C group, and 2 in placebo; while Results states 2 in vitamin C group, and 1 in placebo.

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