Reviewer's report

Title: Developmental heterochrony and the evolution of autistic perception, cognition and behavior

Version: 2  Date: 27 February 2013

Reviewer: Ze'ev Hochberg

Reviewer's report:

Crespi offers an original view of the complex autism spectrum, using heterochrony and evolutionary considerations. This is novel, interesting, and worth its publication.

Major Compulsory Revisions
1. Since this 'study', as the author calls it, includes a systematic review of the literature, it requires chapters of Methods and Results.
2. P.20 From an evolutionary perspective… - I suggest to start here a new chapter. Otherwise, the evolutionary connotation gets lost. This should also come clearer in the Abstract and Introduction.
3. It may be helpful to add ‘Future Directions’. This may include most of the text of the last two Discussion paragraph and that of the Summary. The latter is not much different than the Abstract.

Discretionary Revisions

Abstract: there is nothing ‘simple’ about autism

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interest with respect to this author and article