Reviewer’s report

Title: Depression care management for late-life depression in China primary care: protocol for a randomized controlled trial

Version: 3 Date: 24 March 2011

Reviewer: lawrence friedman

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With the exception of item 2 listed below, it contains the pertinent information. My other comments:

1. Pagination would be very helpful.

2. It appears that there is no single primary outcome. Rather, several outcomes of apparently equal importance are listed. Generally, a single primary is preferred. It that is not the case, the authors should explain why they chose several, and exactly which ones those are. The places where the primary (single or multiple) outcome is unclear are the Abstract, the Objectives section, and the Statistical Analysis section. Of the eight measure used, which ones will be used to decide if the intervention approach is beneficial?

3. Perhaps because it came from a grant application, there is too much bolding. Only section headings should be in bold.

4. A few trivial corrections: third page, last line—should probably be “Westerners”; in various places, sertraline, bupropion, and venlafaxine, since there are not brand names, should not be capitalized; eleventh page, second line—should be Table 1; twelfth page, 15th line—should probably be “assessed”; fifteenth page, 11th line—“data are”; sixteenth page, 23rd line—“any” is superfluous.