Reviewer’s report

**Title:** Enhanced Relapse Prevention for Bipolar Disorder: A qualitative investigation of value perceived for service users and care coordinators

**Version:** 2  **Date:** 28 August 2008

**Reviewer:** Michael Kauth

**Reviewer’s report:**

Enhanced Relapse Prevention for Bipolar Disorder: A Qualitative Investigation of Value Perceived for Service Users and Care Coordinators- revision

Minor Essential Revisions

1. What I failed to notice in the first review was that the interviewee quotations are incompletely or poorly punctuated, making them very difficult to read.

Discretionary Revisions

1. The revised manuscript improved, but three pages longer. I acknowledge my misreading of relapse rates for SU interviewees in Table 3 for an indicator of intervention effectiveness.

2. I recognize that this is a qualitative study based on what interviewees report. My comment about the frequency of themes has to do with uncertainty about what the terms “some,” “many,” or “a few” means. Does “some” mean two, or five, or 12 individuals? Knowing that 12 out of 20 people, for example, said something similar carries more weight than do similar reports by two respondents.

3. I still find that not all the quotations are informative, and in this revision a couple of new ones have been added. Yes, quotations are data in a qualitative study, but not all data need to be presented in the paper. Selective presentation is more powerful. Numerous quotations slow the reader and belabor the point. This was more of a problem in the second theme section (Ways of Working with BD), which is now more than 6 pages long and included new material that was not in the original manuscript. I counted 18 respondent quotations in this section. Two pages alone in this section were devoted to the action plan (pp. 15-16). I think this section in particular would be stronger, if shortened. However, I am happy to leave this matter to the editors.

Michael R. Kauth, PhD

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**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 interests.