Reviewer's report

Title: Experiences from consumer reports on psychiatric adverse drug reactions with antidepressant medication: a qualitative study of reports to a consumer association

Version: 3 Date: 4 December 2012

Reviewer: Ronald Meyboom

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This is an important study, as regards content and also the way the authors have approached the material. I recommend accepting it. It could benefit, though, from a professional review of the English language.

Below I make a number points and also in the attachment I have added some suggestions and a few questions (in yellow).

1. These reports either concern ‘suspected adverse drug reactions’ or ‘adverse events’ (i.e. cause uncertain and the causal connection unconfirmed). It is important to be clear about this in the writing of the text.

I rarely use the acronyme ADR; it is more like jargon. This study is about adverse reactions to antidepressants; therefore the word ‘drug’ in ADR is superfluous. I recommend using ‘(suspected) adverse reactions’ whenever appropriate.

2. Numbing. This is an important phenomenon be it is also variable and is already more or less know in the literature. Later in the text you call it dulling and blotting out.

3. Please try to find the best word for this: peraps ‘blunting of affect’ ? See for example: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blunted_affect

4. The words ‘discontinuation’ and ‘withdrawal’ (e.g. together with symptom) are both used, without explaining that this is the same (or not).

5. I don’t like the word ‘consumer reports’. Medicines are not consumption goods but are health care tools, (prescription as well as ‘over the counter’).