Reviewer's report

Title: The prevalence and socio-demographic correlates of clinically significant depressive symptoms among Cypriot university students: a cross-sectional descriptive co-relational study

Version: 2 Date: 8 May 2014

Reviewer: Daniel Pagnin

Reviewer's report:

Dear authors,

Your manuscript addressed an important subject, with a valuable data collection about the depression and associated factors among university students. However, I believe that some points should be reviewed.

General Overview

The readers will benefit with a more concise text. For example, the Result section did not use the tables to illustrate points in the text, the tables were the subjects of your text.

Methodology

Often, univariate analysis is used to identify possible explanatory variables for inclusion in the multivariate model. Using all independent variables in the backward regression tends to capitalize on chance and overfit data. In this case, it is important to specify whether the explanatory variables were previously tested for interaction.

Results

An odds ratio of 1 means that both groups have a similar likelihood. Considering the 95% confidence intervals that included 1, the interpretation of some variables (children, faculty, physical health, smoking habit, drug addiction) should be reviewed in the backward regression.

Discussion

The Discussion should reinterpret the results mentioned above.

I would also suggest that the discussion be presented in a different way. The multivariate analysis should receive more emphasis. The multivariate analysis considers the interaction effects between the explanatory variables and can provide a measure of the model's goodness-of-fit to the data.

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable
**Statistical review:** Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests