Reviewer’s report

Title: The development and psychometric properties of a measure of clinician's attitudes to depression: the revised Depression Attitude Questionnaire (R-DAQ).

Version: 2 Date: 8 November 2014

Reviewer: Tom Van Daele

Reviewer’s report:

I have read this manuscript with great interest as it addresses an important issue in clinical practice, i.e. the measurement of the attitude of healthcare professionals towards (patients suffering from) depression. The authors argue that the most commonly used questionnaire, the DAQ, was in need of revision, given issues with psychometric properties and the fact that the questionnaire was not always suitable for the context in which it was used. Not only do I fully agree with them, I am also impressed by the current study: not only because of the sample size, but also because of the thorough design and the detailed reporting in the manuscript itself. The authors also highlight a number of limitations, the main one being the convenience sample based on self-selection from a specific organisation. Although this does limit the findings somewhat, it still provides a thorough basis for the revised questionnaire, which can subsequently be validated in different contexts and for a wider range of health care professionals. The number of suggestions and questions I therefore have are only minor and can be found below.

Discretionary Revisions

1. r39 Reporting the number of experts contacted (including those who did not respond) in the abstract seems like too much information at this point. I would suggest just reporting ‘(n=24)’ here.

2. r262 ... range considered to be between of 0.70 ... ‘of’ should be deleted.

3. r278 It is unclear to me what the authors mean when they state that ‘Acceptability was examined in relation to completion for the scale overall among respondents.’ The concept of acceptability also does not seem to return further on in the results section.

4. r468 heaLth care providers

Level of interest: An article of importance 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.