Reviewer's report

Title: Experienced consequences of being diagnosed with ADHD as an adult - a qualitative study

Version: 1 Date: 22 December 2014

Reviewer: Kate Tchanturia

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Experienced consequences of being diagnosed with ADHD as an adult – a qualitative study

I followed the guidelines provided by the journal and overall I think it is a very good paper. I would recommend minor revisions below.

If there is no problem with the journal in terms of length the qualitative studies are harder to describe in shorter format, however if there is a problem than I would suggest to make table of the themes and try to make it shorter (result section).

Review

1. Is the question posed by the authors well defined?
Yes, the question and the rationale for the research is well explained.

2. Are the methods appropriate and well described?
The method section is very thorough and appropriate to the research question. However, on line 95 (participants) it states that the target age group was 20-35 – what is the reason for this? There is no mention to this age group in the introduction. Why did the authors then deviate from this age group and include older participants?

The data analysis section is quite wordy; particularly lines 158-162 which I think could be re-worded to make the meaning clearer.

3. Are the data sound?
Yes, the data is well presented and appears to be sound.

4. Do the figures appear to be genuine, i.e. without evidence of manipulation?
The only figure included is a table, which is a useful addition and appears to be genuine.

5. Does the manuscript adhere to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition?
Yes

6. Are the discussion and conclusions well balanced and adequately supported by the data?
Yes, the discussion and conclusions are well balanced, considering both the positive and negative consequences of being diagnosed with ADHD.

7. Are limitations of the work clearly stated?
Yes

8. Do the authors clearly acknowledge any work upon which they are building, both published and unpublished?
Yes, there does not seem to be much in the way of existing literature or research, but several previously published works are referenced.

9. Do the title and abstract accurately convey what has been found?
Yes, the abstract is very thorough although the title is perhaps a little abstract i.e. ‘experienced consequences’

10. Is the writing acceptable?
At times, the writing is very complex with very long sentences and some technical language or phrases. Although it is clearly of a high quality, reading the paper did, at times, felt difficult.

Overall, a very interesting and well conducted and written piece of research.

**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:**
N/A