Reviewer’s report

Title: Validation of the Bahasa Malay Version of the Montgomery-Asberg Depression Rating Scale (MADRS-BM)

Version: 2
Date: 3 November 2014
Reviewer: Rafal Watrowski

Reviewer’s report:

The paper of Yee et al. deals with a topic that is of interest for Malaysian health professionals. The work could also be useful for comparing psychometric properties of the MADRS in different languages.

The abstract is informative, the introduction is carefully elaborated. The methodology is sufficiently described and the presentation of the results is clear.

Discretionary Revisions:
Have the authors checked if the number of individuals (150) has been sufficient for a reliable validation? Please, answer this question in the methodology or discussion part.

Minor Essential Revisions:
Additionally, I two minor revisions would be necessary:
Table 2 and Table 4 - please, translate into English!
Table 3 - Spearmans correlation - instead of Pearsons correlation - would be more suitable for ordinal data (however, probably without impact on the results).

In sum, the work of Yee et al. is well written and deserves publication.

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