Reviewer's report

Title: Attachment and coping in psychosis in relation to spiritual figures
Attachment and religion in psychosis Philippe Huguelet1, M.D. Sylvia Mohr1, Ph.D., Isabelle Rieben2, Ph.D., M.A., Roland Hasler1, Ph.D., Nader Perroud1, M.D., Pierre-Yves Brandt2, Ph.D. 1 University Hospital of Geneva and University of Geneva, Division of Adult Psychiatry, Rue du 31-Decembre 8, 1207 Geneva / Switzerland 2 Lausanne University, Faculty of Theology, BFSH 2, 1015 Lausanne/ Switzerland Pr Philippe Huguelet (corresponding author) University Hospital of Geneva Department of Mental Health and Psychiatry, Division of General Psychiatry Secteur Eaux-Vives Rue du 31 Decembre 8, 1207 Geneva/ Switzerland Tel: +41 22 382 31 03 Fax: +41 22 382 31 05 Philippe.huguelet@hcuge.ch Emails of the authors : Philippe.Huguelet@hcuge.ch Sylvia.Mohr@hcuge.ch isabelle.rieben@hcuge.ch roland.hasler@hcuge.ch nader.perroud@hcuge.ch pierre-yves.brandt@unil.ch;

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Reviewer: Rebecca Bargenquast

Reviewer's report:

- Major Compulsory Revisions
  1. The rationale for the study as described in the Background section is not clear. Please specify why this study is important, and what previous research it is being built upon. The aims of the study are clear but it is unclear why researching this area is important – Will it help us improve treatments for psychosis? Will it give us a better understanding of the disorder?

- Minor Essential Revisions
  2. Please review language used in the Abstract. For example:
  Under Results in the Abstract – ‘Interviews revealed the transformation of internal working models within the relation to a spiritual figure’ should read ‘Interviews revealed the transformation of internal working models within relation to a spiritual figure’.
  Under Conclusions in the Abstract – ‘The attachment theory…’ should be ‘Attachment theory…”
  3. Please review language used in the Background section. For example:
  “… by avoiding to feel the need for closeness or avoiding…” should read “… by avoiding feeling the need for closeness or avoiding…” (line 14)
  Remove “on psychotic patients” (line 24)
  ‘Unsecure attachment’ should be ‘insecure attachment’ (error also present in Discussion section)
  ‘Effects’ should be ‘affect’ (line 40)
‘Figure’ should be ‘figures’ (line 74)

4. Revise the first sentence under section ‘Coping with spiritual figures and other characteristics’. It is difficult to understand due to length.

5. The second paragraph of the Discussion introduces new literature (not mentioned in the Background section). I think the research on attachment and mentalization, and family communication and psychosis is better included in the Background section, and possibly linked to your rationale for the study.

6. See first paragraph of Discussion section ‘Attachment and trauma’ – second line should read ‘hinder us from’ rather than ‘hinder from’.

7. See second paragraph of Discussion section ‘Attachment and trauma’ – first line should read ‘attachment style’ rather than ‘attachment’s style’

- Discretionary Revisions

8. I think it would be helpful to orient readers by specifying the aims of the study in the Abstract.

9. I suggest using words for numbers less than 10 instead of numbers (e.g. 2/3 should be two thirds).

10. The multiple subheadings in the Discussion section makes it read more like multiple small studies rather than one study into attachment, spirituality, and psychosis. I suggest revising the presentation of points in the Discussion section so the information presented is more integrated, and linked back to the original rationale for the study (which needs to be clarified, see point 1).

**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

**Statistical review:** Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests.