Reviewer’s report

Title: Success/failure condition influences attribution of control, negative affect, and shame among patients with Depression in Singapore

Version: 2 Date: 02 Jun 2017

Reviewer: Hilary M Weingarden

Reviewer's report:

The manuscript "Success/failure condition influences attribution of control, negative affect, and shame among patients with Depression in Singapore" examined differences in attributional style, negative affect, and shame following random assignment to a "success" condition or a "failure" condition in individuals with depression (n = 71) and healthy controls (n = 71). The study focuses on examining differences in patterns of attributional style and negative affect in an Asian sample, to extend our largely Western knowledge-base in this area. This is a novel experimental design and an interesting, clinically relevant study. Overall, the authors have addressed the reviewer comments to the original submission and revised submission. In updating their analyses to address Reviewer 1s suggestions, a few additional minor suggestions arose.

In updating their analyses, the authors newly excluded three participants who were previously included, noting that these individuals were outliers. Did removing these participants from analyses change any of the results obtained? If results changed from non-significant to significant when outliers were removed, could the authors please include further justification (e.g., how many standard deviation units above or below the mean were the excluded outliers?).

In the ANCOVA results, I suggest that the authors present the main effect findings first, in full, before they present the interaction results. At present, I found the ANCOVA results hard to follow, and I generally find that it is easier to digest results if they build from the simplest to the most complex.
Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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