Author’s response to reviews

Title: Separating obsessive-compulsive disorder from the self. A qualitative study of family member perceptions

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Version: 2 Date: 30 Jun 2017

Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Raffaella Calati

RE: BPSY-D-17-00250 Pedley,Bee,Berry and Wearden. Separating obsessive-compulsive disorder from the self. A qualitative study of family member perceptions

Thank you for considering our manuscript for publication within BMC Psychiatry. We appreciate the comments provided by the reviewer and have made the amendment outlined below in response to this.

Should you require any additional information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Rebecca Pedley
(Reviewer 2): I believe the authors have successfully addressed the concerns and comments raised by this reviewer. The new Figure 1 and Table 2 improve the clarity of the paper, in my opinion. I respect the authors' decision of concealing information in the way they have done so in order to avoid the participants being recognised, given the small amount of participants.

I have one very minor suggested change. In table 1, note that you have written "English speaking" in both the column of inclusion and the column of exclusion criteria. The column of exclusion criteria should say instead "unable to speak English" (or a similar phrasing). Or, even better, "English speaking" could be deleted from the exclusion criteria column since it is understood that English being an inclusion criteria makes the non-speaking an exclusion.

We thank reviewer 2 for noting this error. Indeed, the exclusion should have stated “unable to speak English”. As recommended however, we have removed this exclusion point altogether as we agree, this exclusion can be understood from the ability to speak English being an inclusion criterion.