Reviewer’s report

**Title:** A case of a four-year-old child adopted at eight months with unusual mood patterns and significant polypharmacy.

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 03 Apr 2017

**Reviewer:** Matthew Krasowski

**Reviewer’s report:**

This is a generally clearly written case report on the challenges of managing an adopted child with complex psychiatric issues. The case additionally examines the issue of polypharmacy.

The main critique I have of this article is that the analysis and discussion of polypharmacy in this child is pretty superficial. Other than some details on risperidone dosing, there is no description of dosing of the other medications or of how the various medications overlapped in this child. It would be helpful to provide some analysis of the likely adverse effects of these medications and how they may actually be contributing to the observed behavioral difficulties. Nor is there any discussion of drug-drug interactions, an additional possible contributor to adverse effects. In addition, there is also, as far as I can tell, only a single citation to an article on pediatric psychotropic medication use. It would be helpful to cite some literature on polypharmacy in children as this is a main focus of the manuscript.

**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.

Unable to assess

**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.

Not relevant to this manuscript
Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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