Reviewer’s report

Title: German general practitioners’ self-reported management of patients with chronic depression

Version: 1 Date: 08 Jul 2017

Reviewer: Marco Menchetti

Reviewer's report:

The paper is clear and well-written. The topic is of interest due to the high prevalence of mood disorders in primary care. The authors admit the sources of bias: possible low representativeness of the sample, the use of self produced and not validated instrument, and biases associated with use of self reported questionnaire.

To increase the interest of the paper, I suggest further analyses: 1) to evaluate gender differences in the sample: female and male GPS practise differently for several conditions including depression (for example, female GPs tend to use/recommend psychosocial interventions, while male GPs are inclined to psychopharmacological interventions); 2) to evaluate differences among GPs working in rural or urban areas; 3) to explore the relationship between years of clinical experience and management of chronic depression (it is possible that less experienced GPs do not distinguish chronic and not chronic forms of depression).

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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