Reviewer’s report

Title: Variability of activity patterns across mood disorders and time of day

Version: 0 Date: 07 Sep 2017

Reviewer: Jean Marc Guilé

Reviewer's report:

Well-written interesting paper highlighting the relevance of using actigraphy, esp. in evening periods, as a clinical tool in the assessment of mood disorders. Activity count SD appeared as an easily available parameter for intra-individual variability, useful to discriminate mixed states from other mood episodes.

Method section should provide more information on the diagnostic process, esp. if standardised assessment tools were used, and if so, which one. Information should be given on medication for each participant. Limitations should include a statement on medication with respect to the text in the Method section, clarify the meaning of <SD in % of activity count> in table 2.

Are the 34 patients described in the following paper, included in the present sample? Int J Bipolar Disord. 2017 Dec;5(1):5. A pilot study to determine whether combinations of objectively measured activity parameters can be used to differentiate between mixed states, mania, and bipolar 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 recommend additional statistical review.
Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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