**Reviewer's report**

**Title:** An intensive multimodal group programme for patients with psychotic disorders at risk of rehospitalization: a controlled intervention study

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**Reviewer:** Helinä Hakko

**Reviewer's report:**

An intensive multimodal group programme for patients with psychotic disorders at risk of rehospitalisation: a controlled intervention study.

The study was aimed to compare the length of stay (LOS), healthcare costs compulsory admissions between intervention and control groups. Intervention group consisted of participants who received intensive multimodal group programme (FACT & FACT Plus). Control group received care as usual (FACT). The results showed that the psychiatric LOS and mental healthcare costs were notable lower in the intervention group compared to the control group. The specific comments are presented below:

**INTRODUCTION**

The introduction section is clearly written and the cited articles are up-to-date.

**METHODS**

**Intervention/Care as usual:**

The intervention procedure is described on in the text. It would be easier for reader if the core points of the FACT and FACT Plus programmes are described in Table or Figure format.

AT the beginning of the page 5 the authors noted that "… the mean number of patients is 200 …". Does this mean the annual number of patients?

How many patients refused to participate to the study? Did this rate differ between those allocated to the intervention and control groups?
Participants:

Table 1 shows the baseline characteristics of the study groups. The results of the statistical significance tests need to be added to that table. Describe also what the "history of addiction" means.

Ethical issues and data processing:

From my point of view, it is rather unusual practise that the patients in the control did not need to sign the informed consent form prior entering to the study. Please, explain this practise in more detailed manner. The patients in the control group, however, allowed the use of there data based on the care as usual (regular FACT):

RESULTS

All results in the result section are presented only in the text. It would be more reader-friendly if those are reported in table.

DISCUSSION

The discussion section is clearly written. Small number of cases in the study groups needs to be discussed as a limitation of the study.
Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No

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:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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