Author’s response to reviews

Title: Rapid cycling bipolar disorder is associated with antithyroid antibodies, instead of thyroid dysfunction

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The editor
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RE: Manuscript ID BPSY-D-19-00191 R

Dear Editorial Board:

Enclosed is the latest revision of our manuscript (Manuscript ID BPSY-D-19-00191). We would like to thank you for the very helpful comments on our manuscript. We have performed all the revisions the editorial board asked and addressed most of the editors’ concerns. Following is a point-to-point response to the editorial board's comments.

"The authors have not addressed the question about validity of rapid cycling, despite the fact that it is the main category dividing the groups. This should explicitly be described in the methods (retrospective or prospective, interview or medical files, what were the criteria for episodes/phases etc). Validity of rapid cycling can be questioned as a construct. Instead, number
of episodes during the past year could be used. Given the common practice of using rapid cycling in the literature, I think this is mostly a matter of discussion.

Response: The definition of rapid cycling used and how it was determined in this study was added in the revised manuscript, the related references were also enclosed. In addition, why we define the rapid cycling in this study was interpreted in detail. (seen in page 7 line 42 to page 8 line 17)

Otherwise, the language necessitates careful editing."

Response: language editing has been performed throughout the whole manuscript. A few grammar errors had been corrected.