Reviewer’s report

Title: Abnormal resting-state functional connectivity of hippocampal subfields in patients with major depressive disorder

Version: 0 Date: 03 Nov 2019

Reviewer: Baoliang Zhong

Reviewer's report:

The authors investigated the resting-state functional connectivity of each hippocampal sub-field in patients with MDD. They compared functional connectivity maps between participant groups, using the hippocampal sub-fields as seeds. The authors attempted to use ROC curves as an approach of distinguishing patients from controls, using the hippocampal sub-field data. However, I have some concerns as below.

1. Whether the study was approved by the local ethical committee must be specified, as well as the approval number.
2. A table with results of one-sample t-test is necessary.
3. In the discussion section, the author needs to talk more about the microbiological structures of study findings.
4. Results presented within this study are simply gross differences in connectivity patterns, without any relationships to depression-specific symptoms. Are there any symptom measures available that could demonstrate some relationship between altered functional connectivity and observable behavior?

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:

Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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None.

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