Author’s response to reviews

Title: Emotional Suppression and Depressive Symptoms in Women Newly Diagnosed with Early Breast Cancer

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Journal Editorial Office
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Re: manuscript id 7199700561284803 entitled “Emotional Suppression and Depressive Symptoms in Women Newly Diagnosed with Early Breast Cancer”

Dear Ms April Rada,

Thank you for your helpful comments on our manuscript. We have revised the manuscript and responded to these comments point by point. The revised version of the manuscript has been thoroughly reviewed and edited by a native English-speaking scientific editor. Major changes in the revised manuscript have been marked in yellow.

All of the authors listed in the byline have agreed to the byline order and to submit the revised manuscript in this form. I have assumed responsibility for keeping my coauthors informed of progress through the editorial review process, the content of the reviews, and any revisions.

Once again, thank you for your consideration and I look forward to receiving good news from you.

Yours sincerely,
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Editor’s Comments

(1) Page 13 lines 14-15. The sentence should be reworded and not state that psychological help should be provided. The CES-D is a screening tool. If the score > 16, that indicates the need for a more in-depth assessment to determine if the person meets the criteria for a clinical depression.

Response: Thank you for this valuable comment. In the revised manuscript, we have modified the sentence “Therefore, psychological help should be provided from the beginning of diagnosis and treatment.” as below: (Page 13, Line 8-10).

“Nevertheless, deeper assessments (e.g., clinical interview) should be conducted to determine if these patients meet the criteria for a clinical depression in clinical practice.”

(2) We recommend that you copyedit the paper to improve the style of written English. If this is not possible, you may need to use a professional language editing service.

Response: Thanks. According to your comment, we have improved the written English in the manuscript with the help of a native English-speaking scientific editor.

For example, in the background section, the sentence “In China, which used to be a low-incidence area, urban cancer registries have documented 20% to 30% increases for breast cancer in the past decade.” has been reworded as follows: (Page 4, Line 4-6).

“China used to be a low-incidence area of breast cancer, but in the past decade, 20% to 30% increases have been documented in the urban cancer registries.”

The statement “Numerous studies have shown that depressive symptoms not only affect the patients’ physiological function [9, 10] and adherence to treatment [11], but also reduce patients’ psychological functioning [12] and quality of life, and may even have an effect on mortality of breast cancer patients [13].” has been changed to: (Page 4, Line 16-19).

“In addition to decreasing physiological and psychological function [9-12], depressive symptoms may have other serious consequences, such as increasing mortality in patients with breast cancer [13].”