Reviewer’s report

Title: The cross-national epidemiology of social anxiety disorder: Data from the World Mental Health Survey Initiative

Version: 0 Date: 22 Nov 2016

Reviewer: Borwin Bandelow

Reviewer’s report:

This is a very well-written article on the cross-national epidemiology of social anxiety disorder. It would be difficult for me to find any unanswered questions in the paper. Also, the paper is important, as such large surveys covering many countries of the world have not been conducted before.

Perhaps, in the Abstract, some figures could be shown, e.g. "lifetime, 12-month, and 30-day prevalence were 4.0%, 2.4%, 1.3% across all countries”.

Statistics

Some corrections were applied to correct for biases, e.g. the Part I one data were weighted to adjust for differential probabilities of selection and to match population distributions on census socio-demographic and geographic distributions.

Also, survival analysis was used to estimate the age of onset, as the young age of many respondents biases the age of onset downwards.

The applied statistical methods are sound and I don’t see problems.

10/35: Perhaps the “PROC” used in SAS could be provided, e.g. PROC LIFETEST

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 am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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