Reviewer's report

Title: Vitamin C as an adjuvant for treating major depressive disorder and suicidal behavior, a randomized placebo controlled clinical trial

Version: 3 Date: 21 November 2014

Reviewer: Andrew Hugh Ford

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for asking me to re-review this manuscript following the changes implemented by the authors. The manuscript looks a lot better although there are still a few issues:

• The sentence in the abstract has been re-worded but should be “We also checked for the presence of adverse effects.”

• The introduction is a little better but still has a number of phrasing issues e.g. the third sentence “…in the animal.”, sentence 2, page 5 “…increased mood.” I personally think that the first chapter should be deleted.

• The hypothesis is a good addition but is incorrectly phrased. It could be written as: “We hypothesized that vitamin C would augment the antidepressant effects of citalopram in treating adult patients with major depressive disorder.”

• The randomization issue has not been satisfactorily clarified. The authors state in their letter that “Their participation was voluntary” yet in the manuscript they state that 68 patients were randomly allocated into the 2 groups (35 and 33) but then 25 patients “declined to participate”. Why were they randomized if they did not consent?

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

Nil