

Invitation to revise manuscript JPSYCHIATRRES_2019_1191

1 封郵件

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Ref: JPSYCHIATRRES 2019 1191

Title: THE EFFECTIVENESS OF EYE MOVEMENT DESENSITIZATION AND REPROCESSING TOWARD ANXIETY

DISORDER: A META-ANALYSIS OF RANDOMIZED CONTROLLED TRIALS

Journal: Journal of Psychiatric Research

Dear Professor Chou,

Thank you for submitting your manuscript to Journal of Psychiatric Research. Reviewers have now commented on your paper. You will see they are advising a revision of your manuscript. Although I am sorry to say that we cannot publish your manuscript in its present form, I would be pleased to reconsider should you be prepared to undertake the work required for revision.

For your guidance, reviewers' comments are appended below.

If you decide to revise your work, please submit the list of changes or rebuttals for each of the raised points when you submit the revised manuscript.

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I look forward to receiving your revised manuscript as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Florian Holsboer Co-Editor-in-Chief German Editorial Office Journal of Psychiatric Research

Comments from the reviewers:

-Reviewer 1

• I think this statement is sensationaist and more journalistic than academic. 'With anxiety disorder prevalence rates and consequences continuously increasing, anxiety disorders need to be **considered a public health emergency** for the global population'.

Should this be - based on previous random controlled trials? As the first meta-analysis to analyze EMDR from a different perspective, the primary purpose of this study was to measure the effectiveness of EMDR towards anxiety disorders based on randomized controlled trials (RCTs)

- A clear early explantion as to how EMDR is applied clinically and how the results of the review can be transferred to clinical practice would be useful. Perhaps move the discussion section page 8 to the introduction or background EMDR defined?
- Anxiety has many symptoms Worry, the main aspect of anxiety, functions as a cognitive avoidance to internal and external threats or negative events. the latter statement seems to be rather generalised and could be reviewed and rewritten with more detail related to biological, social and pyschological symptoms of anxiety.
- I think this is a unique paper re EMDR, generally well written and a very clever review. The statistical tests however are beyond my reach. With a strong edit to remove generalisations and platitudes this paper should be published.

-Reviewer 2

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This paper presented results of a meta-analysis on randomized controlled trials to evaluate the effectiveness of Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) on reducing symptoms of anxiety disorders. This is a comprehensive meta-analysis, and the idea is novelty. The following inquires and suggestions could be considered to strengthen the quality of the paper:

- 1. The meta-regression and subgroup analysis were used for further analyses to explain the heterogeneity; however, the results of meta-regression and subgroup analysis were different. Please explain why the conclusions were based on the data from subgroup analysis but not from the meta-regression.
- 2. The possible mechanisms of the effect of EMDR on anxiety, phobia, panic, and somatic symptoms should be added.
- 3. Why the results of this study are different from the previous study conducted by Coubard (2016)?
- 4. Why the effect of EMDR with less than 8 sessions is better than EMDR with at least 8 sessions?

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