Manuscript ID: 80691

Manuscript Title: Identification and Characterization of ncRNA-associated ceRNA Networks in Major Depressive Disorder

Reviewer 1

Dear authors,

In order to contribute to the improvement of the manuscript, some suggestions are proposed according to the Guideline for basic study manuscripts:

1.   Do not use superscript numbers or symbols to identify the authors' affiliation and corresponding author. For affiliation use please:

Zhili Zou, Bo Zhou, Psychosomatic department, Sichuan Academy of Medical Science & Sichuan Provincial People's Hospital, Chengdu 610072, China.

Zhili Zou, YuYe, Bo Zhou, Sichuan Provincial Center for Mental Health, Sichuan Academy of Medical Sciences
Author: We have revised the affiliation according to your suggestion.

2.   A running title is required;
Author: We have added the running title "Bioinformatic Data Mining over Major Depressive Disorder"

3. ORCID of the authors is required;

Author: The ORCID of the corresponding author is 447415054@qq.com. We have added it in the manuscript.

4. Please note that the manuscript must be prepared using 12 pt Book Antiqua font. Authorship, Institution, ORCID number, Support, Corresponding author and keywords should follow the sequence described in the guideline of the journal;
Author: We have changed the sequence.

5. Please check the number of words in each topic of the abstract;
Author: We have simplified the abstract and reduced the words within 200.

6. The Core tip is absent;

Author: A core tip is added in the manuscript.

7. Please provide the meaning of "SDD" (Material and Methods - Data resources and preprocessing);

Author: Sorry, this is a typo, it should be SSD, Subsyndromal Symptomatic Depression, we have correcred this mistake in the manuscript.

8. Please provide the meaning of abbreviations the first time they appear in the text (GO, KEGG, PPI...)

Author: We have gone through the manuscript and added the meaning of the abbreviations.

9. This is just a suggestion: it would be interesting to talk about the *ELOVL4* gene pointed out in PPI, it is also a gene related to fatty acid metabolism and has been reported in neural pathologies (neuroblastoma, spinocerebellar ataxia).

Author: We have added relative content about the ELOVL4 in the discussion section

<u>Reviewer 2</u>

Overall, I thought it was a strong paper. I felt the research topic was interesting and the article appeared well-written and well-referenced. However, I am recommending that the paper is accepted for publication with some minor revisions. It is unclear how your added research will dispel many of the misunderstandings surrounding this difficult situation since the data was only described and you did not contribute significantly to better manage these problems. Therefore, it is suggested that the discussion section be reconsidered in terms of clinical implications. I also suggest that the manuscript is proofread by a native English speaker or Editing service. So please make sure there are no English errors. All in all, it is a good job.

Author: Thank you for your suggestion. We have gone through the manuscript and checked the language again, and we also made some changes in the discussion section.