



## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** *World Journal of Psychiatry*

**Manuscript NO:** 84855

**Title:** Abnormal Volumetric Brain Morphometry and Cerebral Blood Flow in Adolescents with Depression

**Provenance and peer review:** Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 05198640

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** DSc, MD, PhD

**Professional title:** Full Professor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Bulgaria

**Author's Country/Territory:** China

**Manuscript submission date:** 2023-03-31

**Reviewer chosen by:** Geng-Long Liu

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2023-04-21 05:13

**Reviewer performed review:** 2023-04-29 09:22

**Review time:** 8 Days and 4 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Novelty of this manuscript</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No novelty
<b>Creativity or innovation of this manuscript</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No creativity or innovation



<b>Scientific significance of the conclusion in this manuscript</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No scientific significance
<b>Language quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
	Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

**SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

This paper reports results from field study of clinical population with adolescent depression, compared to healthy controls studied with neuroimaging techniques. The applied methods of structural MRI - followed by voxel-based morphometry analysis, and detection of cerebral blood flow reveal significant alteration in various brain areas, in the patients group. The abstract and the main text are well structured, the statistical analysis is relevant to the research question, the conclusions are supported with evidence. Authors are advised to consider broader context of the introduction and discussion in the following aspects: \*More comprehensive background of the earlier studies on voxel based morphometry in depression, e.g. <https://doi.org/10.1017/neu.2019.20> \*Detailed explanation on the role of multimodal approaches to combine structural and functional MRI data as possible diagnostic instruments: <https://doi.org/10.3390/diagnostics12020469> \*Addressing in the conclusion the critical question about incorporation of neuroimaging data into standard diagnostic procedures in psychiatry



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**Reviewer's code:** 01344350

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Associate Professor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Germany

**Author's Country/Territory:** China

**Manuscript submission date:** 2023-03-31

**Reviewer chosen by:** Geng-Long Liu

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2023-04-30 06:02

**Reviewer performed review:** 2023-05-03 03:30

**Review time:** 2 Days and 21 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Novelty of this manuscript</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No novelty
<b>Creativity or innovation of this manuscript</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No creativity or innovation



<b>Scientific significance of the conclusion in this manuscript</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No scientific significance
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<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
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<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
	Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

**SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

This is an interesting piece of work, showing considerable changes in brain morphology of adolescents suffering from with depression. Amongst the brain structural alterations are those of the cerebellum - a brain region, which has been clearly underestimated in this context. Suggestions: Core tip: Please re-phrase the sentence "Meanwhile we introduced alterations etc. (maybe detected or found?). Introduction: Please re-phrase: In addition, there has been some evidence in dicating that depression is associated with functional and structural changes in individuals with depressio. This is repeated unnecessarily. Question: Were there individuals with suicife ideation? If yes: Were their brain structural (and functional) alterations more pronounced that in non-suicidal individuals? The title of the paper reflects the subject of the MS. The abstract and key word are okay. The background adequately describes the present status and significance of the study. Methods are well described. Results are clearly described and reflect a considerable progress in the field. Discussion is okay. Illustrations are of good quality. References are adequate. Quality of manuscript organization: Good.