

December 2, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please, find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: Manuscript\_20140927154019\_02\_12\_2014)

**Title:** 'The Mood Spectrum Model: evidence reconsidered in the light of DSM-5'.

**Authors:** Antonella Benvenuti, M.D., Mario Miniati, M.D., Antonio Callari, M.D., Michela Giorgi Mariani, M.D., Mauro Mauri, M.D., and Liliana Dell'Oso, M.D.

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

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 14290

We have expanded and revised the manuscript by including (for guidance in highlight yellow in the text) reviewers' suggestions. Here, the answers to reviewers' comments.

**Reviewer 02909557**

We thank the reviewer for his/her suggestions. We changed the 'Discussion' section as following:

1. We described other instruments, namely the MATHS and the TEMPS-A, as suggested by the reviewer.
2. We added new sentences regarding the topic of '*mixed depression*'.
3. We discussed the prognostic and therapeutic implications potentially deriving from the adoption of the proposed Mood Spectrum Model.

**Reviewer 02445686**

1. We thank the reviewer for his/her comments on the 'Method' section. The literature search strategies derived from the ones recommended by the PRISMA Guidelines (2009). We utilized a flow diagram (Fig.1) to summarize the total number of screened papers and the number of those included in the review process. Moreover, we specified the inclusion/exclusion criteria. No extraction forms for the data extraction process were used, mainly because the studies on the proposed mood spectrum model were conducted in different fields and with different aims, as described in the paragraphs of the result section. Finally, two authors previously completed a formal training in reviewing data and performing meta-analyses, independently from the participation in this manuscript (Antonio Callari, M.D. and Michela Giorgi Mariani, M.D.).
2. Following the Reviewer's comment, we added a sentence in the 'Discussion' section: '*As far as we know, the MOODS-SR is the only instrument exploring the 'core' criterion diagnostic symptoms and their associated features, as well as the wide range of symptoms surrounding the typical features of mania and depression, in a unitary format. Findings suggest that the mood spectrum approach is*

able to offer clinicians a more clinically meaningful assessment of psychopathology than the established measures of manic and depressive severity. We propose the SCI-MOODS as an advance in clinical and research methodology. Unfortunately, even if the change in DSM-5 pointed-out for a more subtle definition of mood disorders a wide area of mood spectrum psychopathology is still neglected'.

**Reviewer 00485141**

**Reviewer Comment**

1. The paper includes a lot of information; the readability of the results could be improved with a summary table or figure, and also by shortening the text.

**Answer**

We thank the reviewer for his/her suggestion. However, results were already summarized in a table. Moreover, Figure 1 was implemented according to PRISMA guidelines.

**Reviewer Comment**

2. Title: The role of DSM-5 is not very large, so maybe not needed in the title. One could also add more on DSM-5 to the text.

**Answer**

Thanks for your comment. The Editorial Committee approved the title after the invitation to submit the manuscript, and, as far as we know, it cannot be changed.

Following reviewer's suggestion we added some more comment on DSM-5 in the text.

**Reviewer Comment**

3. Abstract: The last sentence of the abstract should be modified and the sentence should describe what was found in relation to the DSM-5 (as in "core tip").

**Answer**

Abstract has been modified as requested

**Reviewer Comment**

4. Introduction: Are there many versions of the scales? How many translations are available?

**Answer**

Following the reviewer's suggestion we add the following sentence to the 'Introduction' section:

'The same authors constructed a MOODS-SR last-month version. All the versions were developed in parallel in English and Italian with a back translation and a subsequent validation for internal consistency and inter-rater reliability'.

Moreover, in the 'Results' section is specified that there is a validated Spanish version of the instruments.

**Reviewer Comment**

5. Materials and Methods: The Figure 1 could be improved, see e.g. instructions in PRISMA guidelines.

**Answer**

Following the reviewer's suggestion we improved Fig. 1 following the PRISMA Guidelines

**Reviewer Comment**

*6. Authors mentioned that they used previously established inclusion and exclusion criteria. There should be a reference to these. Why was it necessary that two of the three search terms were found from the abstract? It seems that terms SCI-MOODS and MOOD-SR would be adequate on their own.*

**Answer**

We acknowledged the suggestion of the reviewer to elucidate this point and we re-phrased the 'Materials and Methods' section, as highlighted in the manuscript.

**Reviewer Comment**

*Results: 7. The results could describe more what was found: in how many different samples the instruments were used? In which countries?*

**Answer**

We thank the reviewer for this suggestion. We added a sentence to the 'Results' section with the above-mentioned information.

**Reviewer Comment**

*8. The name of the study (if available) and country should be added to the Table. It could be marked which studies were from the same sample.*

**Answer**

We modified the Table as requested.

**Reviewer Comment**

*9. The first (a) paragraph could be entitled "Validity and reliability".*

**Answer**

We modified the paragraph title as requested.

**Reviewer Comment**

*10. Are the later articles studies also reliability and validity in their samples? What they have found?*

**Answer**

We thank the reviewer for his/her comment. However, it is unclear if he/she refers to the last papers of the Table or to the papers of the last paragraph of the Discussion section. In both cases, no reliability/validity analyses were performed nor in the Depression Phenotype Study nor when the MOODS-SR was administered to patients with complicated grief.

**Reviewer Comment**

*11. Some of the results paragraphs, e.g. "d", should be shortened.*

**Answer**

We shortened the Results section, as highlighted in the revised manuscript.

**Reviewer Comment**

12. Discussion: Authors should discuss their finding also in relation to related instruments (e.g. TEMPS-A).

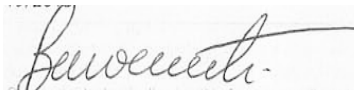
**Answer**

We thank the reviewer for his/her suggestion. We discuss our finding in relation to other instruments, namely the MATHS and the TEMPS-A.

**No changes were requested for References and typesetting**

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Psychiatry*.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Benvenuti', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Antonella Benvenuti, M.D.  
Department of Clinical and Experimental Medicine  
University of Pisa  
Via Roma 67, 56100, Pisa, Italy  
E-MAIL: [antonellabenvenuti@virgilio.it](mailto:antonellabenvenuti@virgilio.it)