

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 54331

**Title:** Identification of key genes involved in post-traumatic stress disorder: Evidence from bioinformatics analysis

**Reviewer's code:** 03604107

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** MD, PhD

**Professional title:** Professor

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

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

**Manuscript submission date:** 2020-02-20

**Reviewer chosen by:** Jia-Ping Yan

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2020-07-24 17:47

**Reviewer performed review:** 2020-07-31 07:24

**Review time:** 6 Days and 13 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<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 type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

## **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

The paper is well organized and of great interest. However, I have three major concerns that need to be addressed:

1. The paper needs wide grammatical and language editing. Some sentences or locutions are awkward, for example: disturbing when reminding the flashbacks, is not entirely understand.....
2. You cannot formulate the prevalence of PTSD based on a single study: It's estimated that the prevalence of PTSD range from 3.1% to 61.6% including 6648 participants conducted in six countries[4] Instead, consult different and authoritative sources, and quote them duly.
3. You have studied several genes related to PTSD. There is still a confusion hereby; probably you should explain why you've been concentrating your research on these genes. Other authors include / mention other genes as well; for example, recently The South East European (SEE) - PTSD Study (DOI: 10.24869/psyd.2019.210) has published in Psychiatria Danubina a set of papers. In these studies, other genes have been scrutinized. Please include such a perspective, at least theoretically, at least in the discussion. Why this set of genes in a study, and another one elsewhere?

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 54331

**Title:** Identification of key genes involved in post-traumatic stress disorder: Evidence from bioinformatics analysis

**Reviewer's code:** 00503575

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** MSc, PhD

**Professional title:** Associate Professor, Doctor

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

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

**Manuscript submission date:** 2020-02-20

**Reviewer chosen by:** Jia-Ping Yan

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2020-07-24 23:31

**Reviewer performed review:** 2020-08-07 21:54

**Review time:** 13 Days and 22 Hours

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<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 type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

## **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

This is a very nice study conducted to identify genes potentially involved in PTSD using bioinformatics methods. The manuscript is well presented, however several issues and clarifications need to be addressed. Major • The study claims to unravel potential mechanisms of PTSD using bioinformatics methods and used RTPCR to verify the level of expression of key genes of which the expression was already expected. The study should rather manipulate the level of expression of these genes and demonstrate the functional consequences in gene, protein expressions and on behavior. • The data used from Muhie S. et al through the GEO2R allowing to retrieve DEGs should be further explained to show exactly the list and the number of the total genes obtained. • The venny method that allow the overlapping of DEGs across the groups should also be explained step by step to allow reproducibility of the data presented. • The same remark apply the data obtained from the other tools allowing to identify the pathway enrichment, to visualize integrated networks, connections among genes and networks. The explication should be detailed so as to allow reproducibility of the data presented. • How the behavioral data are linked to the main objective of the study? Minor • The manuscript need to be paginated • Result section, paragraph 1, line 5: "The venn diagram of upregulated and downregulated DEGs at were shown in..."should read "The venny diagram of upregulated and downregulated DEGs were shown in Figure 1." • Result section, paragraph 1, line 1: The above 973 DEGs were performed using DAVID database... should better read The above 973 DEGs were assessed using DAVID database... • In the list of references, the journal should be mentioned either in lowercase or capitals not both.