

## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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

**Manuscript NO:** 61646

**Title:** Chronic Serotonin Syndrome: A Retrospective study

**Reviewer's code:** 00055107

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** PhD

**Professional title:** Full Professor

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

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

**Manuscript submission date:** 2020-12-14

**Reviewer chosen by:** Jin-Lei Wang

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-01-07 11:25

**Reviewer performed review:** 2021-01-10 19:18

**Review time:** 3 Days and 7 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 Grade E: Do not publish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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input 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**

Authors studied the serotonin syndrome (SS), an adverse drug reaction that is a consequence of excessive activation of central and peripheral serotonergic receptors by the clinical use of several serotonergic drugs. It is characterized by altered mental activity, neuromuscular hyperactivity, and autonomic disturbances, and sometimes it can lead to death. Diagnosis of SS is purely clinical and primary care physicians are not familiar with this syndrome. Thus, misdiagnosis for mild SS is common in clinical practice and studies on SS are focused on acute and severe cases. Then, in this retrospective study, authors evaluate clinical aspects of the mild chronic SS through the study of patients having symptoms that met the Hunter criteria for SS for more than 6 weeks. They hypothesize that patients receiving serotonergic drugs for a long period could be suffering from a mild and chronic SS that is not diagnosed as such, and in some of them SS may progress rapidly to death. Thus, authors suggest that these patients should be thoroughly physically examined to detect symptoms of chronic SS. This is an interesting and well written paper that may helps to unmask mild cases of SS in patients under chronic serotonergic treatment that present non-specific clinical symptoms. I only have minor concerns. The name of the hospital where data are obtained is no given in the Methods section. In the Discussion, authors stated "... cyproheptadine (a 5-HT<sub>2A</sub> antagonist) ...". It is the main drug used in cases of SS, thus I suggest to specify that cyproheptadine is a 5-HT antagonist the first time that it appears in the abstract as well as in the main text (second paragraph of Results). I suggest using only the abbreviated form "SS" instead "serotonin syndrome" throughout the text. The terms "5-hydroxytryptamine" and "5-HT" are included in text at the end of the Discussion section. I suggest to introduce this terms as synonymous of serotonin at the beginning of the Introduction and to use only one of them: "serotonin" throughout the text.

## RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

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**Academic degree:** PhD

**Professional title:** Full Professor

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

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

**Manuscript submission date:** 2020-12-14

**Reviewer chosen by:** Han Zhang (Part-Time Editor)

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2021-01-22 17:53

**Reviewer performed review:** 2021-01-22 18:33

**Review time:** 1 Hour

<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<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

The authors have revised the manuscript and all the reviewer comments have been



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satisfactorily addressed. Thus, I consider that the paper is suitable for publication in its present form.