

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Psychiatry

Manuscript NO: 61766

Title: Selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors and risk reduction for cardiovascular disease in patients with schizophrenia: A controversial but promising approach

Reviewer's code: 03029582

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD, PhD

Professional title: Consultant Physician-Scientist, Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Greece

Author's Country/Territory: United States

Manuscript submission date: 2020-12-17

Reviewer chosen by: Man Liu

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-03-08 20:04

Reviewer performed review: 2021-03-13 17:10

Review time: 4 Days and 21 Hours

Scientific quality	<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 Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<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
Conclusion	<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
Re-review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No



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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is a very interesting and novel review about a possible protective role of SSRIs use in cardiovascular disease in patients with schizophrenia. Overall, it is well written and deserves publication. There are a few minor comments. 1. The title gives the impression that hard evidence will be presented in text. This is far from being real because findings from studies are limited and controversial. A better title may be: "SSRIs and Risk....Schizophrenia. A controversial but promising approach". 2. It should be stressed that the very small number of studies cannot warrant any conclusion. Only hypotheses can be made for either direction (protective and harming). 3. The authors need to add a paragraph in discussion section regarding the beneficial role of SSRIs use in the negative symptoms of schizophrenia. Although the role of antidepressants use in schizophrenia seems to be limited, there are studies that show improvement of apathy, aboulia and depression when such drugs are used as add on therapy to the standard treatment with antipsychotic medication. This might be another plausible mechanism of the beneficial role of SSRIs in cardiovascular disease in patients with schizophrenia. That is the improvement of negative symptoms and secondary the improvement of life-style and every-day living.