

MS 74950 -Chakrabarti, Singh. Psychotic symptoms in bipolar disorder and their impact on the illness: a systematic review

### **Answers to the reviewer's comments**

Reviewer #1:

**Scientific Quality:** Grade B (Very good)

**Language Quality:** Grade B (Minor language polishing)

**Conclusion:** Major revision

**Specific Comments to Authors:** The subject of the present study is very novel and of great clinical relevance. The guidelines of meta-analysis have been aptly followed. The following questions can be clarified:

1. The language of the paper needs to be further optimized to be lucid, simple, and easy to follow – The entire text has been revised in an attempt to make it lucid, simple & easy to follow. The word count has remained about the same.

2. Whether this systematic review was registered with an international systematic review, provide the registration number if already registered, and if not, state the reason.

This review was not registered at a recognized registry because this was not a requirement for this journal. Moreover, there is currently no consensus that a priori registration of studies other than clinical trials is necessary and desirable.

[References - Eboime et al. 2021. BMJ Global Health 2021;6: e006199; Pearce N. Occup Environ Med 2011; 68:86–8; Samet JM. Epidemiology 2010; 21:610–1]

3. It is recommended that this study describes the literature screening process using a standard 4-stage flow diagram of PRISMA. - This has been done. The revised PRISMA flow diagram follows the 4-stage format of PRISMA 2009.

4. The abstract section is very long and should be further optimized to provide a brief summary. – This has been done. The findings have been summarized & the length of the revised abstract has been reduced by 56 words.

5. Analyzing from the clinical perspective, mood-congruent symptoms or mood-incongruent symptoms should include delusions and hallucination, please further

clarify the significance of the four groups. – The following has been added to clarify the significance of the four groups – “Mood-congruent and incongruent symptoms, and FRS were examined separately because these symptoms usually indicate a more severe form of BD and may have a greater impact on its outcome.” [Introduction - Aims and objectives of the current systematic review – page 6]

Reviewer #2:

**Scientific Quality:** Grade C (Good)

**Language Quality:** Grade B (Minor language polishing)

**Conclusion:** Accept (General priority)

**Specific Comments to Authors:** If possible, you can add a part of conclusion about affection of social function. – This has been done by adding – “The lack of impact on functioning was surprising but not unusual. The existing literature suggests that though a significant proportion of the patients with BD have impaired functional and social outcomes, this does not appear to be mediated by the presence of psychotic symptoms [83, 141].” [Discussion page 20]

Reviewer #3:

**Scientific Quality:** Grade C (Good)

**Language Quality:** Grade B (Minor language polishing)

**Conclusion:** Major revision

**Specific Comments to Authors:** The authors conducted a comprehensive and in-depth review of the prevalence, clinical characteristics, and impact on outcomes of psychotic symptoms in bipolar disorder with a novel perspective.

The search scope was set from 1940 to 2021, during which time the concept of bipolar disorder underwent a complex evolution. Therefore, the use of "bipolar disorder" as a search term for this time period may have resulted in heterogeneity in the included studies, which may have led to biased results (as described by the authors). – This has been acknowledged as a possible limitation, but the justification for including older studies has been made by adding that - “The studies covered a period from 1940 to 2021, during which the definition of BD has undergone many changes. Thus, there may be some difficulty in equating labels such as manic-depressive psychoses and BD. However, there are only minor differences between the definitions in older studies and the current definitions of the disorder. Moreover,

leaving out studies conducted before the 1980s would have resulted in a significant loss of data.” [Discussion - Methodological considerations – page 17]

The supplementary tables are numerous and are suggested to be summarized and simplified. The median, mean, and range were not described in a uniform manner in several tables. - We agree that the number of supplementary tables is somewhat large. The principal reason for these was the large number of studies (339), which were selected for the review. Since the supplementary tables include data that form the basis of the findings & conclusions of this review, we decided to include all possible details so that the results of this review can be verified by interested researchers. The supplementary tables & text tables have been simplified & summarized. Moreover, the simplified & summarized findings from the supplementary tables have been included in tables 1-6 of the main text. Both the supplementary tables & the text tables have been re-formatted to present the figures for the number of studies, mean, median, and range in a simple & uniform manner.

**Science editor:**

This manuscript provided a review of the prevalence, clinical characteristics of psychotic symptoms and their impact on outcomes in bipolar disorder. The subject of this study is novel and has clinical significance.

It is recommended that this study use the PRISMA standard flowchart to describe the literature screening process, and the tables in this manuscript are numerous and are suggested to be summarized and simplified.

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These changes have been made. The revised PRISMA flow diagram follows the 4-stage format of PRISMA 2009. We agree that the number of supplementary tables is somewhat large. The principal reason for these was the large number of studies (339), which were selected for the review. Since the supplementary tables include data that form the basis of the findings & conclusions of this review, we decided to include all possible details so that the results of this review can be verified by interested researchers. The supplementary tables & text tables have been simplified & summarized. Moreover, the simplified & summarized findings from the supplementary tables have been included in tables 1-6 of the main text. Both the supplementary tables & the text tables have been re-formatted to present the figures for the number of studies, mean, median, and range in a simple & uniform manner.

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Language Quality: Grade B (Minor language polishing)

Scientific Quality: Grade C (Good)

**Company editor-in-chief:**

I have reviewed the Peer-Review Report, full text of the manuscript, and the relevant ethics documents, all of which have met the basic publishing requirements of the World Journal of Psychiatry, and the manuscript is conditionally accepted. I have sent the manuscript to the author(s) for its revision according to the Peer-Review Report, Editorial Office's comments and the Criteria for Manuscript Revision by Authors.

Please be sure to use Reference Citation Analysis (RCA) when revising the manuscript. RCA is an artificial intelligence technology-based open multidisciplinary citation analysis database. For details on the RCA, please visit the following web site: <https://www.referencecitationanalysis.com/>. – We are not sure how to use this website for an unpublished manuscript. We would be grateful if you guide us.

Please provide decomposable Figures (in which all components are movable and editable), organize them into a single PowerPoint file- This has been done.

Please authors are required to provide standard three-line tables, that is, only the top line, bottom line, and column line are displayed, while other table lines are hidden. - This has been done.

The contents of each cell in the table should conform to the editing specifications, and the lines of each row or column of the table should be aligned. Do not use carriage returns or spaces to replace lines or vertical lines and do not segment cell content. - This has been done.

Please check and confirm whether the figures are original (i.e. generated de novo by the author(s) for this paper). If the picture is 'original', the author needs to add the following copyright information to the bottom right-hand side of the picture in PowerPoint (PPT): Copyright ©The Author(s) 2022. If an author of a submission is re-using a figure or figures published elsewhere, or that is copyrighted, the author must provide documentation that the previous publisher or copyright holder has given permission for the figure to be re-published; and correctly indicating the reference source and copyrights. For example, "Figure 1 Histopathological examination by hematoxylin-eosin staining (200 ×). A: Control group; B: Model group; C: Pioglitazone

hydrochloride group; D: Chinese herbal medicine group. Citation: Yang JM, Sun Y, Wang M, Zhang XL, Zhang SJ, Gao YS, Chen L, Wu MY, Zhou L, Zhou YM, Wang Y, Zheng FJ, Li YH. Regulatory effect of a Chinese herbal medicine formula on non-alcoholic fatty liver disease. World J Gastroenterol 2019; 25(34): 5105-5119. Copyright ©The Author(s) 2019. Published by Baishideng Publishing Group Inc. [6]”. And please cite the reference source in the references list. – The PRISMA flow chart is an original figure & this has been stated.

However, the quality of the English language of the manuscript does not meet the requirements of the journal. Before final acceptance, the author(s) must provide the English Language Certificate issued by a professional English language editing company. Please visit the following website for the professional English language editing companies we recommend: <https://www.wjgnet.com/bpg/gerinfo/240>.

All three reviewers & the science editor have recommended only minor language polishing (Grade B). This has been done for the revised version of the manuscript. The revised manuscript has been checked again using free software to ensure that all grammatical, syntactical, formatting and other related errors are resolved, so that the revised manuscript could meet the publication requirement (Grade A). A new language certificate for the revised version has been provided. This meets the requirement number 4 for language polishing. As has been stated, this research is not funded. Thus, we do not have the funds to engage the services of professional English language editing company. We would be grateful for an exemption in this case & are willing to make any changes to the language of the manuscript that may be required at a later stage.

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Please list the name of six English Language Databases. – This has been done.

[Materials and methods- Search strategy – page 7]

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**All changes have been highlighted in red font.**

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**Editorial board member ID** 02445242