

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Psychiatry*

Manuscript NO: 84855

Title: Abnormal Volumetric Brain Morphometry and Cerebral Blood Flow in Adolescents with Depression

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 05198640

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: DSc, MD, PhD

Professional title: Full Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Bulgaria

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2023-03-31

Reviewer chosen by: Geng-Long Liu

Reviewer accepted review: 2023-04-21 05:13

Reviewer performed review: 2023-04-29 09:22

Review time: 8 Days and 4 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 Grade E: Do not publish
Novelty of this manuscript	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No novelty
Creativity or innovation of this manuscript	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No creativity or innovation

Scientific significance of the conclusion in this manuscript	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No scientific significance
Language quality	<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
Conclusion	<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
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

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This paper reports results from field study of clinical population with adolescent depression, compared to healthy controls studied with neuroimaging techniques. The applied methods of structural MRI - followed by voxel-based morphometry analysis, and detection of cerebral blood flow reveal significant alteration in various brain areas, in the patients group. The abstract and the main text are well structured, the statistical analysis is relevant to the research question, the conclusions are supported with evidence. Authors are advised to consider broader context of the introduction and discussion in the following aspects: *More comprehensive background of the earlier studies on voxel based morphometry in depression, e.g. <https://doi.org/10.1017/neu.2019.20> *Detailed explanation on the role of multimodal approaches to combine structural and functional MRI data as possible diagnostic instruments: <https://doi.org/10.3390/diagnostics12020469> *Addressing in the conclusion the critical question about incorporation of neuroimaging data into standard diagnostic procedures in psychiatry

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Title: Abnormal Volumetric Brain Morphometry and Cerebral Blood Flow in Adolescents with Depression

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 01344350

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Associate Professor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Germany

Author's Country/Territory: China

Manuscript submission date: 2023-03-31

Reviewer chosen by: Geng-Long Liu

Reviewer accepted review: 2023-04-30 06:02

Reviewer performed review: 2023-05-03 03:30

Review time: 2 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
Novelty of this manuscript	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No novelty
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	Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is an interesting piece of work, showing considerable changes in brain morphology of adolescents suffering from with depression. Amongst the brain structural alterations are those of the cerebellum - a brain region, which has been clearly underestimated in this context. Suggestions: Core tip: Please re-phrase the sentence "Meanwhile we introduced alterations etc. (maybe detected or found?). Introduction: Please re-phrase: In addition, there has been some evidence in dicating that depression is associated with functional and structural changes in individuals with depressio. This is repeated unnecessarily. Question: Were there individuals with suicife ideation? If yes: Were their brain structural (and functional) alterations more pronounced that in non-suicidal individuals? The title of the paper reflects the subject of the MS. The abstract and key word are okay. The background adequately describes the present status and significance of the study. Methods are well described. Results are clearly described and reflect a considerable progress in the field. Discussion is okay. Illustrations are of good quality. References are adequate. Quality of manuscript organization: Good.