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Manuscript NO: 64440

Manuscript Type: Systematic Reviews

Dear Editor,

thank you for the opportunity to revise and resubmit our manuscript. We appreciate the feedback from the reviewers and we have closely revised the paper in light of the insightful suggestions provided. Below are the details of the comments and our responses.

ANSWERING REVIEWERS

We thank the Reviewers for their thorough job and suggestions. We have revised the manuscript according to reviewers comments.

Reviewer #1:

Scientific Quality: Grade C (Good)

Language Quality: Grade A (Priority publishing)

Conclusion: Minor revision

Specific Comments to Authors: This review is focus on comorbidity and differential diagnosis between ASD and PD. The first hypothesis of this study is Whether personality traits are part of the same autistic phenomenology or rather comorbidity. The second aim of study is that high-functioning ASD patients are frequently misdiagnosed with PD and few studies were found on differential diagnosis between ASD and PD. The major finding of this review is that ASD in high-functioning adults is associated with a distinct personality profile. Cluster A and cluster C personality disorders (PD) are the most frequent co-

occurring PD in ASD. Data on differential diagnosis only with cluster A and cluster B PD have been found. However, all findings of included studies were based on self-report questionnaires or structured interviews collecting information only from the patients. This raises concerns about how a person with autism can read and understand the complex questions in a self-report test: individuals with autism could have difficulties in understanding the real meaning because of their literal way of reading a text. Another area little examined is the role of age in modulating the relationship between PD and ASD. Longitudinal research on personality and ASD may clarify whether the relationship between personality and ASD increases in adulthood. Moreover, there were significant differences in methodological approaches, including ASD diagnostic instruments and personality measures. Overall, this review article explores the complex relationship between ASD and PD which might enhance the diagnostic process and also inform targeted interventions in clinic. There are two minor issues that should be clarified or improved: 1. The title of the article: "Autism spectrum disorder and personality disorders: Comorbidity and differential diagnosis." Or "A systematic review of autism spectrum disorder and personality disorders: comorbidity and differential diagnosis." 2. Typo for the figure 1, in Eligibility part: 'not assessment tools', should be 'not using assessment tools'; 'not English language', should be changed into 'not using English language' as well.

We thanks the reviewer for her/his comments and suggestions.

1. We changed the title of the article following the reviewer's suggestion. We chose the first title proposed by the reviewer: "Autism spectrum disorder and personality disorders: Comorbidity and differential diagnosis."
2. We corrected the typos for figure 1 ("not using assessment tools" and "not using English language").

Reviewer #2:

Scientific Quality: Grade C (Good)

Language Quality: Grade B (Minor language polishing)

Conclusion: Accept (General priority)

Specific Comments to Authors: In this manuscript, author review a question that is worth pursuing further, that is the comorbidities and differential diagnosis of autism and

personality disorder. Difference and connection between autism and other neuropsychiatric disorders are discussed frequently. On this basis, author detailed elaborated the article included which followed the inclusion criteria and made the systematic interpretation on this issue. In the literature retrieval, if don't be limited to the pubmed and add some synonym retrieval, the retrieval strategy will be optimized, more discoveries may be found, and the credibility of relevant conclusions will be increased.

We thanks the reviewer for her/his comments and suggestions.

The reviewer is right, the literature research has only been conducted extensively on Pubmed. We consider this article as a preliminary work that should be expanded in the future, considering not only adults with ASD but also adolescents. We have added this aspect as a limitation of our study: *"Furthermore, our research has been conducted extensively on Pubmed only. Future works should be conducted by optimizing retrieval strategies and also including studies concerning adolescence"*.

RESPONSES TO EDITORIAL OFFICE'S COMMENTS

(1) *Science editor*: 1 Scientific quality: The manuscript describes a systematic review of the autism spectrum disorder and personality disorders. The topic is within the scope of the WJP. (1) Classification: Two Grades C; (2) Summary of the Peer-Review Report: In this manuscript, author review a question that is worth pursuing further, that is the comorbidities and differential diagnosis of autism and personality disorder. The questions raised by the reviewers should be answered; (3) Format: There are 7 tables and 1 figure; (4) References: A total of 116 references are cited, including 14 references published in the last 3 years; (5) Self-cited references: There are 10 self-cited references. The self-referencing rates should be less than 10%. Please keep the reasonable self-citations (i.e. those that are most closely related to the topic of the manuscript) and remove all other improper self-citations. If the authors fail to address the critical issue of self-citation, the editing process of this manuscript will be terminated; and (6) References recommendations: The authors have the right to refuse to cite improper references recommended by the peer reviewer(s), especially references published by the peer reviewer(s) him/herself (themselves). If the authors find the peer reviewer(s) request for the authors to cite improper references published by

him/herself (themselves), please send the peer reviewer's ID number to editorialoffice@wjgnet.com. The Editorial Office will close and remove the peer reviewer from the F6Publishing system immediately. 2 Language evaluation: Classification: Grade A and Grade B. A language editing certificate issued by Proof-Reading was provided. 3 Academic norms and rules: No academic misconduct was found in the Bing search. 4 Supplementary comments: This is an invited manuscript. No financial support was obtained for the study. The topic has not previously been published in the WJP.

Issues raised

1) The authors did not provide original pictures. Please provide the original figure documents. Please prepare and arrange the figures using PowerPoint to ensure that all graphs or arrows or text portions can be reprocessed by the editor;

We corrected and prepared the figure using PowerPoint

2) The "Article Highlights" section is missing. Please add the "Article Highlights" section at the end of the main text.

We added the Article Highlights section at the end of the main text.

In accordance with the content review guidelines we added:

- 1) Structured abstract
- 3) Conclusion section

Best regards,

Dr Roberto Keller

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Roberto Keller', with a stylized, cursive script.

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