

Apr 8th, 2017

Dear Sir:

We thank you and the reviewers for the constructive comments and suggestions for improvements to our manuscript, "**Three-dimensional stereotactic surface projection in the statistical analysis of SPECT data for distinguishing between Alzheimer's disease and depression**" (old title: **3-dimensional stereotactic surface projection in Statistical Analysis of SPECT for Distinguishing between Alzheimer's disease and Depression**). We are resubmitting a revised version for your consideration for publication in *the World Journal of Psychiatry*.

In our responses to reviewer and editor comments, we have addressed every point made and indicated all changes to the manuscript. All revisions to the original text are highlighted in yellow in the revised version. We hope that you find that these changes and clarifications now render our paper suitable for publication in *the World Journal of Psychiatry*.

Juntendo University School of Medicine Department of Psychiatry

Eiji Kirino, M.D. Ph.D.

Correspondence: Eiji Kirino, Juntendo Shizuoka Hospital, 1129 Nagaoka  
Izunokunishi Shizuoka 4102211 Japan

Phone/Fax: +81 (55) 948-3111 / +81 (55) 948-5088

Email: [ekirino@juntendo.ac.jp](mailto:ekirino@juntendo.ac.jp)

## Revision notes

We brushed-up English writing carefully over-all.

For the comment of Reviewer 2445242

1. Would a more detailed structured interview not helped? Is it possible to completely rule out non-AD dementias by such an evaluation?
2. The question that comes to my mind again is how valid is this distinction given the small number of studies it appears to be based on? Is there no overlap between AD & depression associated regions, perhaps in other studies?
3. The final question is what are the implications of this study for clinicians. Can SPECT be used to somehow better a distinction made on clinical grounds, including the response of cognitive impairment to treatment for depression?

→We answered for three questions by Reviewer 2445242 in the section of Limitations.

1 : limitation 2<sup>nd</sup>

2: limitation 3<sup>rd</sup>

3: limitation 5<sup>th</sup>