

MS 40872- Treatment alliance and adherence in bipolar disorder

Reply to reviewer's comments

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is a comprehensive, well-written review of therapeutic alliance, especially as it applies to Bipolar Disorder. It ends by advocating an alliance based on principles such as autonomy and self-determination - ethical principles that are not shared by all cultures and traditions. This point should be briefly made. The paper is very interesting but somewhat repetitious and, in the end, tiring to read. Some omissions would be helpful. Words such as therapeutic alliance, study design and several others should not be hyphenated. or only as a means only a means to suite the purposes suit it amply clear it is amply as an key element as a key (last sentence not clear)

REPLY

The manuscript has been extensively revised as suggested.

The total length of the manuscript has been reduced by more than 20% (from 4371 to 3457 words).

Repetitions have been avoided as far as possible.

Hyphenated words have been reduced to a minimum. Therapeutic alliance, treatment alliance and study design are no longer hyphenated.

A line about the limited cross-cultural variability of the concepts such as alliance, PCC and SDM has been included (Last section on 'Implications for research and practice')

References have been reordered and three new ones about cross-cultural validity have been added.

Since almost the entire manuscript has been rewritten changes have not been highlighted separately.