

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Meta-Analysis*

Manuscript NO: 71218

Title: Simulating the mind and applications - a theory-based chance for understanding
psychic transformations in somatic symptom disorders

Provenance and peer review: Invited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 05299889

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MSc

Professional title: Assistant Lecturer, Pharmacist

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Iraq

Author's Country/Territory: Austria

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Reviewer chosen by: AI Technique

Reviewer accepted review: 2021-08-31 14:58

Reviewer performed review: 2021-09-05 20:00

Review time: 5 Days and 5 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 Grade E: Do not publish
Language quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input 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 type="checkbox"/>] Anonymous [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [<input type="checkbox"/>] Yes [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] No
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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

The manuscript is well-written and organized, it concisely presents a model for better understanding of somatic symptom disorders and thereby better therapeutic approaches application. However, few minor corrections can be helpful as suggested below: 1-For keywords, I suggest the addition of “somatic symptom disorders”, “bodily distress disorder”, “Mealy Model”. 2- In the paragraph just above fig 2, there are extra space and also extra bracket. Please, check for it. 3- For fig 2, can you improve resolution of the figure so that words inside boxes can be very clear. 4- For the following section “If an information d in Fig. 2 is generated by the information c, it is simultaneously present as a quantity at the output of the upper layer and thus as a quantity f at the lower layer”, I think it should be “Fig. 3” not “Fig. 2”. 5- For equation 1 and 2, can you elaborate more about parameter Di.

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Reviewer's code: 05406719

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: PhD

Professional title: Instructor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: United States

Author's Country/Territory: Austria

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Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This article presents an inter-disciplinary analysis of factors that should be considered to understand and develop therapies for somatic symptom disorders. Specifically, the authors propose the use of simulation models that can characterize the complexities of psychic transformations at an individual level for understanding the disease and to develop treatments. While the article tries to present a case study with somatic disorder and discusses the development of the disease through psychological and biological perspectives before presenting modeling aspect, it felt directionless at various points as there is no clear objective defined in the introduction. Further, the different sections and sub-sections of the article are not clearly marked, so it is very hard to read.

There are sentences that seem incomplete or lack continuity and have grammatical errors. The language needs to be simplified and made more concise. The language is very informal at many instances. Examples: "The central feature of the former definition, the one that in somatoform disorder the symptoms are not explained by physical causes, has been changed" "Treatment approaches always raised discussions, due to the complexity of the problem" – the language is very informal here. "However, at the core of the problem, and promoting somatoform disorders, are dysfunctional affect regulation abilities and attachment patterns, caused by early experiences, even more in vulnerable persons with genetic predisposition, and multigenerational transmission of attachment and affect regulation have been investigated" – this sentence does not make sense. "To conclude, affect regulation is linked to the attachment pattern and socially transmittable" – what does socially transmittable mean here? "also with parents' controlling or even haunting overprotection and over care" – haunting



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overprotection? What does haunting overprotection or over care mean? What is the fourth narcissistic offense? No definition is presented. “This implies the acceptance of limitations, narrowness,” – what do you mean by narrowness in this sentence? “the need of a developmental adequate classification has been highlighted” – what do you mean by adequate classification here? Affect regulation is discussed in the paragraph even before the section: “Development of affect-regulation” Figure 1: The caption should explain what is going on in the figure. The way it is presented the concepts are vague and does not add value to the discussion. Figure 2: The text within the boxes is not legible. Figure 3: Nothing is readable. The image is very small. The description of mealy model is not at all clear and the language used is very confusing.