

Reviewer #1

Specific Comments to Authors: The aim of the current study is to investigate if there are specific neural circuits underpinning differential item responses to depressive, paranoid and neutral items in patients with schizophrenia and major depressive disorder. I've found this study interesting and up-to-date. I have only minor suggestions: - Introduction: "The aim of the current study is to investigate whether there exists..." please correct with "whether common and specific neural circuits exist, which..." - Subjects: "was performed by a board certified psychiatrists" please correct with "was performed by a board certified psychiatrist" "after that patients" please correct with "after that, patients..." - MADRS and PANSS: please add references for these scales Table 1: Please explain what MADRS and PANSS are for. In the text, authors refer to depression with DEP or D. Please use one abbreviation and correct.

@Response: *Thank you for your comments. The text of the revised manuscript has been duly amended with all corrections highlighted.*

Conclusion: This section needs a broader explanation of the results obtained. Please correct typos in the text.

@@Response: *The conclusion has been expanded with broader explanation.*

Reviewer #2:

Specific Comments to Authors: Thanks for posting this draft. The manuscript was very interesting. The manuscript is well organized and follows a clear flow. But an article with this title (Group independent components underpin responses to items from a depression scale)(<https://doi.org/10.1017/neu.2023.22>) has been published by these authors in Acta Neuropsychiatrica journal, which overlaps with this draft to some extent.

@Response: *The article has been tested for similarity with licensed tools. There has been reported 3 % or less similarity with other papers.*