

**RESPONSE TO EDITOR'S AND REVIEWERS' COMMENTS
ON THE MANUSCRIPT ENTITLED
"ATTENTION-DEFICIT/HYPERACTIVITY DISORDER AND SUICIDE:
A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW",
AUTHORS: JUDIT BALÁZS AND ÁGNES KERESZTÉNY**

We would like to thank the Editor and the Reviewers for acknowledging our work. And for the useful comments and suggestions. Please find the answers to below. We have modified the manuscript accordingly. And highlighted the changes.

Editor

„Any manuscript describing a study (basic research and clinical research) that used biostatistics must include a statement in the Materials and Methods section affirming that the statistical review of the study was performed by a biomedical statistician.”

„Basic research and clinical research studies require a data sharing statement.”

The current manuscript does not describe a study, it is a systematic review.

„A conflict-of-interest statement is required for all article and study types.”

We added the conflict-of-interest statement to the title page and we send a signed form in pdf format as well.

„AIM (no more than 20 words): The purpose of the study should be stated clearly and with no or minimal background information, following the format of: “To investigate/study/determine...”

Based on the Editor's suggestion, we modified the Abstract:

„To investigate suicidality and attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder, this paper aims to systematically review the literature as an extension of previous reviews.”

“Please write a summary of no more than 100 words to present the core content of your manuscript, highlighting the most innovative and important findings and/or arguments. The purpose of the Core Tip is to attract readers' interest for reading the full version of your article and increasing the impact of your article in your field of study.”

We added a Core Tip section.

“CORE TIP

- *This review of the last four years strengthens previous findings that there is a positive association between attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder and suicidality in both sexes and in all age groups.*
- *Suicidality should screen in patients with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder.*

- *Comorbid disorders mediate between suicidality and attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder.*
- *Recognizing attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder and comorbid conditions can be important in suicidality prevention as well."*

We added an Audio Core Tip.

„Please just offer ref number for all cited references, and list them in order. Thank you!”

„Please add PubMed citation numbers and DOI citation to the reference list and list all authors. Pleased provide PubMed citation numbers for the reference list, e.g. PMID and DOI, which can be found at <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sites/entrez?db=pubmed> and <http://www.crossref.org/SimpleTextQuery/>, respectively. The numbers will be used in the E-version of this journal. Thanks very much for your co-operation.

Such as: 1 Nayak S, Rath S, Kar BR. Mucous membrane graft for cicatricial ectropion in lamellar ichthyosis: an approach revisited. *Ophthal Plast Reconstr Surg* 2011: e155-e156 [PMID: 21346670 DOI: 10.1097/IOP.0b013e3182082f4e]

Please numbered all references. Thank you!

We numbered all references and we just gave reference number in the text for all cited references and listed them in order in the Reference list.

We added PubMed citation numbers and DOI citation to the reference list.

We listed all authors.

Reviewer: 1

Name of journal: World Journal of Psychiatry

ESPS manuscript NO: 31143

Title: Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder and Suicide: A Systematic Review

Reviewer's code: 00632509

Reviewer's country: Croatia

Science editor: Fang-Fang Ji

Date sent for review: 2016-11-02 21:09

Date reviewed: 2016-11-16 18:42

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

"This is a nicely written review on the association of ADHD and suicidality. In addition to collecting data from 2011 -2015, the authors also answered to the extra questions: the instruments used for the diagnoses of ADHD, suicidality and comorbid conditions, the prevalence of ADHD among suicidal patients / prevalence of suicidality among ADHD patients, the gender differences in suicidality and ADHD, and how comorbid ADHD and other psychiatric disorders influence suicidality. They found 26 articles, and detected a positive association between ADHD and suicidality in both sexes and in all age groups; the data suggested that comorbid disorders mediate suicidality and ADHD, and the authors concluded that ADHD is related to high suicidality in all age groups, in both genders, and for the prevention of suicide, early recognition and treatment of ADHD (either as a comorbid condition or as a main diagnosis), and the co-occurring psychiatric disorders, has an important role; therefore clinician should incorporate routine measurements of suicidality in the daily practice of ADHD clinics."

We would like to thank the Reviewer for the positive feedback.

"I have no major comments, and I have only found a few spelling errors, such as that the authors start the sentence with a capital letter after a colon, for example: "The selective review paper of Nigg (2013) had a wider focus: He overviewed the current..." This should be corrected throughout the text. Please correct "backgrounds" into "backgrounds" throughout the text. Please correct these sentences (delete " as well"): "One of the theoretical backgrounds of it is the construct of impulsivity, which is a well-known personality trait. Impulsivity is a core symptom of ADHD (American Psychiatric Association, 2013; World Health Organization, 1993), moreover it is known that it correlates to suicidal behavior (Brezo et al., 2006). Another theoretical background behind the possible association between ADHD and suicide is that two-thirds of ADHD cases have at least one comorbid psychiatric diagnosis, which is most often conduct disorder, substance use or a major depressive episode (Balazs and Gadoros, 2005; Biederman et al., 1991; MTA Cooperative Group, 1999)..." Please delete "exactly" from this statement: "These comorbid disorders are well-known risk factors of suicide...""

Thank you for these suggestions, we corrected the manuscript accordingly.

Reviewer: 2

Name of journal: World Journal of Psychiatry

ESPS manuscript NO: 31143

Title: Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder and Suicide: A Systematic Review

Reviewer's code: 00551176

Reviewer's country: Hungary

Science editor: Fang-Fang Ji

Date sent for review: 2016-11-02 21:09

Date reviewed: 2016-11-25 02:08

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

“Balazs J and Kereszteny A: Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder and Suicide: A Systematic Review This is manuscript is a systematic literature review of the last four years, exploring the connection between ADHD and suicidal behavior. The topic is relevant, in the last decade increasing attention is focused on ADHD and related issues. Authors put the following research questions: a) the instruments used for the diagnoses of ADHD, suicidality and comorbid conditions b) the prevalence of ADHD among suicidal patients / prevalence of suicidality among ADHD patients c) the gender differences in suicidality and ADHD d) how comorbid ADHD and other psychiatric disorders influence suicidality. The literature review is accurately done, found data are correctly reported.”

We would like to thank the Reviewer for the positive feedback.

“A minor shortcoming of the review, that only English and Hungarian papers were included and as Figure 1 shows three relevant studies were excluded because they were not in English (and supposedly not in Hungarian, but it is not indicated). Inclusion of these studies would have increased the value of the review.”

Unfortunately as we do not speak the languages, we could not include papers on other languages. We extended the Limitation part of the manuscript: *„These findings are limited in that only studies published in English and in Hungarian were included. Three potentially relevant studies were excluded because they were neither in English nor in Hungarian.”*

We added to Figure 1.: *„Not English/Hungarian = 3”*

„Minor comment: The style of the reference list is not uniform.”

We corrected the Reference list.

Reviewer: 3

Name of journal: World Journal of Psychiatry

ESPS manuscript NO: 31143

Title: Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder and Suicide: A Systematic Review

Reviewer's code: 03613726

Reviewer's country: Afghanistan

Science editor: Fang-Fang Ji

Date sent for review: 2016-11-02 21:09

Date reviewed: 2016-11-21 10:33

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

„The authors have reviewed the evidence for an association between ADHD and suicide. This is a descriptive review that does not include meta-analysis. The study concept has merit but as it stands it has a number of problems, including the following:

We thank for the Reviewer acknowledging the importance of this topic. Based on the Reviewer's suggestion we modified the manuscript. We hope we managed to improve the mentioned shortcomings.

„Aims – the authors have listed 5 separate aims, several of which are not really of great relevance, other than as discussion points about potential limitations eg the assessments used. I would suggest the following aims: a) whether suicide is more prevalent in people with ADHD b) whether ADHD is more common in people who are suicidal c) investigating other identifiable risk factors associated with suicide in ADHD.”

Base on the Reviewer's suggestion we modified the aims of the manuscript:

„1. Is ADHD more common in people who are suicidal?

2. Is suicide more prevalent in people with ADHD

3. Which other identifiable risk factors can be associated with suicide in ADHD?

Additionally, to be able to compare the included studies, we investigated what kinds of assessments are used for measuring ADHD, suicidality and comorbid conditions.”

„Methodology – the search strategy seems appropriate, but the selection criteria are not adequately specified and raise questions: a) the substantial selection bias inherent in selecting the languages of English and Hungarian – how might this have biased the findings?”

We extended the Limitation part of the manuscript: *„These findings are limited in that only studies published in English and in Hungarian were included. Three potentially relevant studies were excluded because they were neither in English nor in Hungarian.”*

b) what is meant by the exclusion of suicidal behaviour related to the pharmacological treatment of patients with ADHD? Does this mean that the included cohorts were treated? Or untreated? Would it not have been better to state that the treatment status of many cohorts was unknown and to therefore include the treatment studies, combining the treated-untreated patients to get a mean percentage? Or were these excluded because there was no non-ADHD control group? Was a non-ADHD comparison group one of the inclusion criteria?

We would like to thank the reviewer drawing our attention to this unclear sentence, we modified it.

„It was not in the focus of our study to examine suicidal behavior, as a safety concern about ADHD drug treatment. We excluded those studies, which aim was to examine pharmacological treatment (e.g. atomoxetine) induced suicide in patients with ADHD, e.g. Capuano et al (2014), who present a series of cases of Italian children who experienced suicidal ideation during ADHD pharmacological therapy with atomoxetine.”

„Results – The results as they stand are very difficult to read and really just duplicate the information given in the table. The table is informative but unfortunately the studies are listed alphabetically (!) rather than being classified according to methodology. I would suggest classifying them into 2 main categories: those looking at suicide rate in ADHD and those looking at ADHD in those with suicide. Then classify suicide into: completed suicide, attempted suicide, suicidal ideation – ie 3 different categories of suicide. The confounders in the different studies are diverse and I would suggest combining the co-morbid diagnoses into a single category and then doing meta-analysis. The breakdown of the different diagnoses would obviously be given in an explanatory paragraph.”

Based on the Reviewer’s suggestions we deleted the duplicate text from the Result part and modified the Table and divided it into 4 Tables, Table 1, Table 2, Table 3 and Table 4.

Discussion – This is poorly written and I suggest re-structuring as described in Docherty M, Smith R. The case for structuring the discussion of scientific papers. BMJ 1999;318(7193):1224-5. The discussion should focus on the actual findings of clinical relevance, which I suggest relate to the above aims.”

Based on the Reviewer’s suggestion we re-wrote the Discussion as described by Docherty and Smith (1999) and we focused on actual findings which were related to the aims of the study.