

Manuscript Type: Editorial **Manuscript NO.: 39942**

Title: The successful treatment of nightmares may reduce psychotic symptoms in schizophrenia

I am very grateful to all three reviewers for their suggestions and insights. All revisions are in **BOLD** in the revised text.

Reviewer 1

1. ...a “Strengths and limitations” section is needed. **THESE HAVE BEEN ADDED in the form of caveats, better suited to an editorial.**

2. The author might stress the issue of the Bleulerian concept of “egodisorders” as fundamental dimension of schizophrenia, this could the case of nightmares among these subjects having lost their individual self. **THIS HAS BEEN ADDED**

Reviewer 2

Page 8, 3rd sentence: ‘say’ should be changed to ‘day’. **THIS HAS BEEN CORRECTED. THANK YOU.**

Reviewer 3

1. The author mentions that: 'There are many ways in which the delusions and hallucinations of psychotic illness overlap with the substance of nightmares: in the centrality of the protagonist to the plot of the story line, in the illusion of reality despite improbable circumstances, in the thematic content (persecution, danger, humiliation) and in the resulting emotions [1]. ' However, this overlap might not be limited to delusions and hallucinations, but also include formal thought disorder as this line from Fish's Clinical Psychopathology ( ed. Max Hamilton, Wright publishers, Bristol, 1985, p 53) suggests: 'Bleuler borrowed the concepts of condensation, displacement and faulty use of symbols from Freud, who had pointed out that these mechanisms were characteristic of thinking in dreams.' **THANK YOU. THIS HAS BEEN ADDED**

2. I would be very interested to know whether there is any evidence of a link between nightmares and schizophrenia beyond these obvious phenomenological similarities? For example, is there a biological link with REM abnormalities in schizophrenia? Or, what about the similarities between brain activity during lucid dreaming and psychosis? **PLEASE SEE WHAT I HAVE ADDED IN BOLD.**

3. Finally, for the uninitiated a few lines about the procedure of Imagery Rehearsal Therapy would be helpful. **THIS HAS BEEN ADDED**