

Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS



June 15, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed our revised manuscript in Word format (file name: ESPS Manuscript 10373-Revision.doc), which we hope will be accepted for publication.

Title: A preliminary study of associative stigma among trainee psychiatrists in Flanders, Belgium

Author: Kirsten Catthoor, Joost Hutsebaut, Didier Schrijvers, Marc De Hert, Jozef Peuskens, Bernard Sabbe

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Psychiatry*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 10373

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of the reviewers:

1. **Introduction:** "the reasons why psychiatrists stay in the psychiatric profession appear to be mainly idealistic" was clarified by adding the following sentence: "they improve the psychic wellbeing of their patients, without considering the negative effects of the profession for themselves (lower income compared to other specialists and associative stigma, for example)."

2. **Materials and Methods:**

- *Participants:* age and gender are added, together with more information on psychiatry training in Flanders, Belgium. There is little difference in psychiatry practice in rural and urban areas. However, we added that university hospitals are mainly urban and peripheral hospitals are rural.
- *Measures:* the development of the questionnaire is extensively described.
- *Procedure:* extra information regarding the procedure was added.

3. **Results:**

- *Description of the participants:* more socio-demographical information is added, absolute values and percentages were mentioned, and clarifications of the Flemish situation are provided.
- *Experiences of stigmatization:* findings are more extensively described, along with absolute values and percentages.
- *Descriptive results:* the absolute values of mean total stigma scores and SD were added, along with statistical values. A figure with the most striking results was composed and added. More analyses and comparisons were added to the text in order to obtain a clearer view of the study.

4. **Discussion:** The following sentence was added to aid in understanding the Belgian situation: "There

are no reasons to believe that the results would be different in the French speaking part of Belgium. The psychiatric training and socio-demographic background of the trainees is comparable in both regions.”

References and language were edited by an international proofreading company. Unfortunately, it was not performed by a company on the restrictive list of WJP. We apologize for that inconvenience, we noticed the remark on this topic too late. But we are convinced that the language of this paper reaches grade A.

The first reference on the list is a publication of major importance on the subject of the article. There is no DOI or PMID code available. Therefore, we send you in attachment the first page of the publication, with clear complete reference.

Thank you again for considering our manuscript for publication in the *World Journal of Psychiatry*.

We hope to hear from you soon!

With kind regards,

Kirsten Catthoor, MD