

February 25, 2015

Dr. Jay D. Amsterdam
University of Pennsylvania
Department of Psychiatry
Depression Research Unit
3535 Market Street
Philadelphia, PA 19104

RE: The Citalopram CIT-MD-18 Pediatric Depression Trial: A Deconstruction of Medical Ghostwriting, Data Misrepresentation and Academic Malfeasance

Dear Dr. Amsterdam:

Thank you for submitting your manuscript to JAMA Psychiatry. Each manuscript is thoroughly evaluated by our editorial staff, who assess the manuscript's quality and its priority for publication. Those manuscripts judged unlikely to succeed through stringent external review or whose subject matter does not meet our current editorial priorities are rejected at that point.

Your article on the publication of the CIT-MD-18 pediatric depression trial is of considerable interest, but is not a good fit for JAMA Psychiatry. The results are primarily descriptive/investigative and do not lend themselves to the inferences we usually draw from scientific studies. Furthermore, much of the material is in the public domain and can be found, without further data analysis, by the educated reader.

The vast majority of manuscripts submitted to JAMA Psychiatry are of outstanding quality, yet we have to reject more than 85%. We have to consider novelty, impact, and scientific quality of the manuscripts and believe that your manuscript is better suited for a specialty journal.

Based on our evaluation, I regret to inform you that we will not pursue the manuscript you have submitted for publication.

While we realize that you may be disappointed with our decision, we hope that providing you with this information promptly will allow you to submit your manuscript to another journal without the delay entailed by the external review process.

Thank you for the privilege of reviewing your work.

Sincerely yours,

Stephan Heckers, MD
Editor
JAMA Psychiatry
jamapsych@jamanetwork.org