The title of the article (sentence case)

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# Abstract (Heading1, sentence case)

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# Introduction

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# Study 1: College Transition Study

## Materials and Methods

The College Transition Study (CTS) was a prospective cohort study evaluating depressive symptoms trajectories among incoming students at a large public university. Participants completed eight web-based mental health surveys, two during each month of the fall semester (September-December 2008). The study was open to all incoming undergraduate students, including students in their first ever semester at any higher education institution (*first years*) and transfer students in their first semester at the university (*transfers*). Participants could earn up to $35 for participation: $7 for each month in which they completed both assessments and up to a $7 bonus for completing all eight assessments. We sent emails advertising the study through university-approved e-mail lists and posted flyers in popular locations on campus. Due to limited resources, we closed recruitment once 41 first years and 41 transfers provided consent to participate (N=82). All study procedures were approved by the University of Michigan Institutional Review Board. Three participants (4%) dropped from the study before the final assessment. The participation rate for each study assessment exceeded 90%. Demographic characteristics of study participants, reported in the first survey, are summarized in Table 1.

**Exposure variable.** The primary exposure variable was binary, coding whether participants were first-year students or transfer students.

**Outcome variable.** The outcome variable, capturing the frequency with which participants experienced common depressive symptoms over the prior week, was measured at all eight time points using composite scores from the Center for Epidemiological Studies—Depression Scale (CES-D [1]). The CES-D is a widely used instrument that yields a non-negative summed composite score that is predictive of depression diagnosis and impairment.

**Adjustment variables.** We sought to determine

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Cite figures as “Fig 1”, “Fig 2”, etc. Cite figures and tables in order. Do not cite “Fig 2” before “Fig 1”. Cite multiple figures as “Figs 1 and 2”, “Figs 1- 3”, etc. Each figure caption should appear directly after the paragraph in which they are first cited. Figure files should be saved as “Fig1.tif”, “Fig2.eps”, etc. Acceptable file formats for figures are “.tif”, “.tiff”, and “.eps”. Figures should be uploaded separately as individual files. Do not include figures in the main manuscript file.

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Style: Plos One/ICMJE/Vancouver style

# Conclusion

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# Acknowledgments

Do not include funding or competing interests information in Acknowledgments.

# References

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# Supporting information

List Supporting Information captions at the end of the manuscript in a section titled “Supporting information”. Supporting Information files do not require full captions; only labels (“S1 Fig”) are fully required.