Behavioral neurology

**Review: Brain signals of face processing as revealed by event-related potentials**

Comment:

The authors have written a review of the functional significance of different ERPs as electrophysiological indices of face perception and face recognition. The authors conclude that the posterior-temporal N170 is more sensitive to the detection of faces as complex-structured stimuli and, therefore, to the presence of its distinctive organizational characteristics prior to intra-category identification. The more rostrally generated N250r and N400-like responses might respectively indicate processes of access and retrieval of face-related information, which is stored in long-term memory (LTM).

-In general the paper is well written and the authors should be applauded for attempting to summarize a large amount of literature pertaining to ERPs and face processing. In my opinion the two biggest weaknesses of this paper is 1. The length of the paper and lack of focus, in that the authors do not narrow the goal down to fewer topics, without discussing too many relevant details pertaining to most of the studies included. 2.the choice not to perform some type of systematic or mixed search of the literature.

The latter suggestion may appear to involve additional work but will significantly improve the paper and facilitate the understanding of this paper.

-Further, if the authors decide to maintain a narrative approach I would recommend that the authors restructure this paper including proper objectives/specific aims of the review. Further, adding tables summarizing some of the findings would shorten the manuscript and would make this manuscript easier to read and understand. In its current version this manuscript reads like a chapter of the textbook, and may not be suitable for a journal.

-I would recommend adding a subtitle specifying that this is as a narrative review.