Ref: JAD\_2015\_446

Title: Executive function impairments in depression and bipolar disorder: association with functional impairment and quality of life

Journal of Affective Disorders

I am satisfied with the way the authors addressed the majority of my comments but would recommend few minor revisions to improve the impact factor of this manuscript.

Abstract: please mention age and gender (n of females for instance) of the participants. Given the large number of neuropsychological measures please mention that measures were psychometrically valid and/or standardized. Ideally mention a few names of the most well-known tests. It will make this paper easier to search and cite.

Methods: the authors did not mention whether participants were euthymic at the time of testing. I assume this is because the M.I.N.I. was administered and mood state is therefore assessed only based on clinical questionnaires. Could the authors however state whether patients were euthymic, in full remission etc. Alternatively, please explicitly state somewhere how clinically depressed/manic patients were in the description of the population. Once again this type of information would make this paper easier to read/search/cite.

The current neuropsychological/quality of life measures are indeed described in the methods. However the psychometric properties (e.g. Cronbach alpha, test-retest) are not reported. In other words could the authors please mention which measures were validated/standardized. Also please provide the full name of MATRICS (Measurement and Treatment Research to Improve Cognition in Schizophrenia) and add appropriate references.

Results: figure 2 is now easy to understand. However figure 1 provides way too much information. Could the authors please visualize the most significant (e.g.\*\*) findings and report them in a figure. The rest of the findings could be presented in a table (including F/p values) either within the manuscript or in the supplementary material.

Could the authors please add a few more references in the “quality of life and disability in mood disorders” section.

Regarding age and potential neurodegeneration/age-related brain changes and cognition: I agree with the authors and, to keep the discussion section more concise, I would therefore recommend to add one or two sentences addressing this limitation. The authors should consider citing articles on cristallized/fluid intelligence and age, along with potential age-related brain changes in both healthy and patients with mood disorders.