



The Importance of Measuring Social Anhedonia in Adolescence: A Case for the ACIPS-A [Response to Letter]

Ziyu Ye, Jinyu Li, Yun-Ai Su

Peking University Sixth Hospital, Peking University Institute of Mental Health, NHC Key Laboratory of Mental Health (Peking University), National Clinical Research Center for Mental Disorders (Peking University Sixth Hospital), Beijing, 100191, People's Republic of China

Correspondence: Yun-Ai Su, Peking University Sixth Hospital, Institute of Mental Health, Beijing, 100191, People's Republic of China, Tel +86-10-62723767, Fax +86-10-62027314, Email suyunai@bjmu.edu.cn

Dear editor

We thank Diane C. Gooding and Madeline J. Pflum for their valuable correspondence. In the paper, we stated, “The researchers modified the wording of the questions without conducting actual interviews with adolescent subjects, ignoring the adolescents’ direct experience of social pleasure”. The original intention was to emphasize the methodological differences between the ASA and other existing scales in their development. The development of ASA was grounded in extensive qualitative interviews with adolescents suffering from depression, which served as the basis for item generation. We acknowledge that our wording could have more precisely conveyed this distinction and regret any implication that the ACIPS-A is not a rigorously developed instrument.

We agree that social anhedonia is a key transdiagnostic dimension, particularly during the unique period of adolescence. The ASA, which primarily captures general anhedonia, and the ACIPS-A, which focuses specifically on social anhedonia, are not mutually exclusive but should be regarded as complementary tools. Your suggestion to combine the use of ASA and ACIPS-A is an excellent proposal, as it would facilitate a more comprehensive assessment of the multidimensional nature of anhedonia in adolescents.

Disclosure

All the authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest in this communication.

Dove Medical Press encourages responsible, free and frank academic debate. The content of the Neuropsychiatric Disease and Treatment ‘letters to the editor’ section does not necessarily represent the views of Dove Medical Press, its officers, agents, employees, related entities or the Neuropsychiatric Disease and Treatment editors. While all reasonable steps have been taken to confirm the content of each letter, Dove Medical Press accepts no liability in respect of the content of any letter, nor is it responsible for the content and accuracy of any letter to the editor.

Neuropsychiatric Disease and Treatment

Dovepress
Taylor & Francis Group

Publish your work in this journal

Neuropsychiatric Disease and Treatment is an international, peer-reviewed journal of clinical therapeutics and pharmacology focusing on concise rapid reporting of clinical or pre-clinical studies on a range of neuropsychiatric and neurological disorders. This journal is indexed on PubMed Central, the ‘PsycINFO’ database and CAS, and is the official journal of The International Neuropsychiatric Association (INA). The manuscript management system is completely online and includes a very quick and fair peer-review system, which is all easy to use. Visit <http://www.dovepress.com/testimonials.php> to read real quotes from published authors.

Submit your manuscript here: <https://www.dovepress.com/neuropsychiatric-disease-and-treatment-journal>

<https://doi.org/10.2147/NDT.S568501>

Neuropsychiatric Disease and Treatment 2025:21 2277

2277

Received: 18 September 2025
Accepted: 29 September 2025
Published: 6 October 2025



© 2025 Ye et al. This work is published and licensed by Dove Medical Press Limited. The full terms of this license are available at <https://www.dovepress.com/terms.php> and incorporate the Creative Commons Attribution – Non Commercial (unported, v4.0) License (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/>). By accessing the work you hereby accept the Terms. Non-commercial uses of the work are permitted without any further permission from Dove Medical Press Limited, provided the work is properly attributed. For permission for commercial use of this work, please see paragraphs 4.2 and 5 of our Terms (<https://www.dovepress.com/terms.php>).