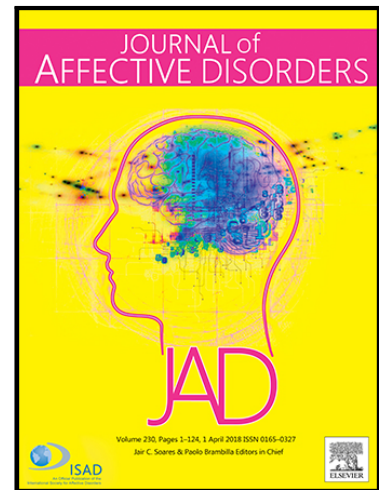


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Long-term treatment response to continuous cycling course in bipolar disorders: A meta-analysis.

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Highlights

- About 30% of bipolar patients experience a continuous cycling course, defined as a sequence of depression and (hypo)mania without a free interval of at least 1 month.
- This meta-analysis identifies 6 studies assessing the long-term treatment response in bipolar patients including those with a continuous cycling course. Compared with patients with non-continuous cycling, those with continuous cycling were significantly poorer responders to lithium or polypharmacy long-term treatment.
- The present meta-analysis confirms the clinical relevance of polarity sequence in bipolar disorder and highlights the severity of continuous cycling course.

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