



# Investigating The Mediating Role of Depression and Anxiety in The Relationship Between Stress Management and Mental Health in Cardiovascular Patients

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## 1. Round 1

### 1.1 Reviewer 1

Date: 03 December 2023

Reviewer:

The abstract effectively summarizes the study's purpose, methodology, and findings. However, the conclusion should explicitly state the practical implications of the findings for clinical practice.

The sample size of 60 patients is relatively small for structural equation modeling. Please provide a justification for the sample size and discuss potential limitations in statistical power.

The explanation of the SEM approach is thorough. However, providing a more detailed rationale for selecting this method over other possible statistical techniques would enhance the clarity.

The interpretation of the mediating effect of anxiety is clear. However, the non-significant mediation effect of depression requires further exploration. Discuss possible reasons for this finding.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the updated document.

## 1.2 Reviewer 2

Date: 10 December 2023

Reviewer:

The use of convenience sampling can introduce bias. Please elaborate on how this sampling method may affect the generalizability of the findings and suggest ways to mitigate this bias in future research.

The measures used (HADS, Keyes Mental Health Questionnaire, and Stress Management Scale) are well-established. However, providing more recent reliability and validity data specific to the study population would strengthen the methodological rigor.

The ethical considerations are well-addressed. However, it would be beneficial to include more details on how participant anonymity was ensured and how data storage complied with ethical guidelines.

Figures 1 and 2 are informative. Ensure that all tables and figures are adequately labeled and that any abbreviations are clearly explained in the figure legends or table footnotes.

In Table 3, include confidence intervals for the path coefficients to provide a clearer understanding of the statistical significance and precision of the estimates.

The discussion section should integrate the study findings more explicitly with existing literature. Highlight how this study advances the current understanding of the relationship between stress management, anxiety, depression, and mental health in cardiovascular patients.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the updated document.

## 2. Revised

Editor's decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.