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Effectiveness of Acceptance and Commitment-Based Couple Therapy on Communication Patterns and Marital Infidelity in Married Individuals

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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

Some sections of the manuscript are dense and could benefit from shorter sentences and clearer expressions. For example, the introduction could be streamlined to enhance focus and readability.

The review could be strengthened by discussing recent studies that have either supported or contradicted the findings of this study, providing a more comprehensive context for the research.

The link between the theoretical underpinnings of Acceptance and Commitment Therapy and the observed effects could be elaborated further. This would help in understanding how the therapy influences communication patterns and infidelity.

The conclusion discusses the effectiveness of the therapy broadly. It could be enhanced by specifically detailing how practitioners can implement these findings in a clinical setting.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The selection process for participants appears to be somewhat unclear. It would be beneficial to provide more details on the criteria used for purposive sampling and to justify why these particular criteria were chosen. This will help in assessing the generalizability of the findings.

The manuscript mentions that the control group received no treatment. To strengthen the study's internal validity, consider describing what activities, if any, the control group engaged in during the study period. This will help in understanding any potential placebo effects or biases.

While the therapy sessions are outlined, the manuscript could benefit from a more detailed description of the content covered in each session of Acceptance and Commitment-Based Couple Therapy. This detail will help in replicating the study and assessing the intervention's specificity.

The paper states that covariance analysis was used; however, the rationale for choosing this specific type of analysis over others is not provided. A brief explanation of why this was the most appropriate choice would clarify the analytical approach.

In Tables 1 and 3, while the means and standard deviations are provided, including confidence intervals could enhance the reader's understanding of the variability and reliability of the scores.

The reliability of the questionnaires used (CPQ and Marital Infidelity Questionnaire) is mentioned, but there is little information on their validity within this specific population. Adding validation information would strengthen the credibility of the measurement tools.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

2. Revised

Editor's decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.