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Effectiveness of Imago Therapy on Cognitive Flexibility and Post-Traumatic Growth in Women Affected by Extramarital Affairs


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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The sentence "The findings indicated that Imago therapy was effective in enhancing psychological flexibility and its subscales as well as post-traumatic growth and its subscales in women affected by extramarital affairs ($P < 0.05$)" should specify which subscales were measured and their specific results to enhance clarity.

In the Methods section, the sentence "The present study aimed to determine the effectiveness of Imago therapy on cognitive flexibility and post-traumatic growth in women affected by extramarital affairs" would benefit from specifying the hypotheses tested.

The paragraph "For selecting the subjects a convenience sampling method was used..." should include a justification for the use of convenience sampling and discuss potential biases introduced by this method.

The sentence "The study protocol adhered to the principles outlined in the Helsinki Declaration" should specify the approval number and the institution that granted the ethical approval to enhance transparency.

The paragraph describing the control group should clarify what kind of support or resources, if any, the control group received to ensure they were not left without any form of support.

The section on Cognitive Flexibility should provide more detail on the validation of the Persian version of the Cognitive Flexibility Index, specifically referencing any studies that have validated its use in the Iranian population.

The Methods section should provide more detail on the repeated measures tests used, including any assumptions tested (e.g., sphericity) and how violations of these assumptions were handled.

The Results section, specifically in the sentence "The mean scores of the experimental group increased from pre-test to post-test and follow-up..." should include effect sizes to give readers a sense of the practical significance of the findings.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The paragraph "Table 2 shows that the multivariate Wilks' Lambda test..." should include a brief discussion of how the results compare to existing literature on the effectiveness of Imago therapy.

Table 1 should include a footnote explaining any abbreviations used (e.g., SD) and clarify the meaning of different stages (pre-test, post-test, follow-up).

The use of the term "psychological flexibility" versus "cognitive flexibility" should be consistent throughout the paper to avoid confusion.

The Discussion section should delve deeper into the theoretical implications of the findings, specifically how Imago therapy might influence cognitive flexibility and post-traumatic growth from a psychological standpoint.

The paragraph "It is important to note that the use of a small sample group limited to women affected by extramarital affairs..." should also discuss other limitations such as potential measurement biases or the generalizability of the findings beyond the specific context of Isfahan.

The sentence "This research aligns with the findings of Mohannaee et al. (2019)..." should provide more context about how the present study's findings specifically corroborate those of Mohannaee et al.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

2. Revised

Editor's decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.