

## The Effectiveness of an Acceptance and Commitment–Based Post-Divorce Co-Parenting Educational Package on Children’s Internalizing and Externalizing Disorders

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## 1. Round 1

### 1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

In the statement “Divorce is widely recognized as a major family transition...”, the authors should more explicitly distinguish between normative stress reactions and clinically significant maladjustment, as later sections rely on clinical interpretations of internalizing and externalizing symptoms.

The definition of co-parenting is conceptually strong; however, the sentence “co-parenting becomes both more challenging and more consequential” should be supported by at least one concrete example of specific post-divorce coordination difficulties (e.g., decision-making, visitation conflict).

When discussing ACT’s relevance, the sentence “ACT’s emphasis on acceptance... may be well-suited to high-stress family transitions” would be strengthened by briefly explaining how ACT mechanisms map onto co-parenting behaviors (e.g., reduced reactivity during exchanges).

The sentence “According to Cohen’s (1988) criteria, these values represent large effect sizes” would benefit from explicitly stating the benchmark values used to support this classification.

The phrase “the improvements in the intervention group remained stable over time” should be supported by reporting the exact follow-up mean differences in the narrative.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

### 1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The paragraph beginning “Despite these advances, several gaps remain salient” should more explicitly identify the specific gap in Iranian post-divorce interventions, since the sample is drawn from Isfahan and cultural context is relevant.

The sentence “40 participants were purposively selected and randomly assigned” requires clarification of how randomization was implemented (e.g., simple randomization, block randomization).

The inclusion criterion “score above 63 on the Child Behavior Checklist” should include a brief justification referencing clinical cut-off rationale, as this threshold strongly shapes sample severity.

The statement “repeated-measures analysis of variance was applied” should clarify whether intention-to-treat analysis was conducted and how missing data were handled.

The demographic paragraph reports education and divorce duration but omits children’s age distribution, which is critical for interpreting internalizing and externalizing outcomes.

When stating “The Kolmogorov–Smirnov test was used”, the authors should justify this choice given the small sample size, and note whether visual inspection of distributions was also conducted.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

## 2. Revised

Editor’s decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief’s decision: Accepted.