

Article history: Received 20 July 2023 Accepted 19 August 2023 Published online 01 September 2023

# International Journal of Innovation Management and Organizational Behavior

nd Organizational Behavior

Open Peer-Review Report

E-ISSN: 3041-8992

# **Investigating the Impact of Entrepreneurial Management on Entrepreneurial Competence: Emphasizing the Role of**

**Entrepreneurial Behavior** 

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## 1. Round 1

### 1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The research question is broadly formulated. A more precise definition of how entrepreneurial management influences entrepreneurial competence could enhance the study's focus. For example, specifying aspects of entrepreneurial management that are hypothesized to have the most significant impact could add clarity.

While the literature review comprehensively covers various aspects of entrepreneurship, it could benefit from a more detailed discussion on previous studies that specifically address the mediating role of entrepreneurial behavior between management and competence. This addition would contextualize the study within existing research and highlight its contribution more effectively.



The description of the sampling method (non-probability convenience sampling) lacks justification. Given the study's aim to generalize findings to SMEs in Tehran, the authors should discuss the rationale behind this choice and its implications for the study's external validity.

The reference list appears comprehensive, but ensuring all citations are correctly formatted and up to date would enhance the manuscript's professionalism and ease of use for readers interested in further study.

Authors revised the manuscript.

#### 1.2. Reviewer 2

#### Reviewer:

Although the use of established questionnaires lends credibility, the adaptation process for this specific study context is not described. The authors should detail any modifications made to the questionnaires and provide a rationale for these changes, ensuring the instruments' relevance and reliability in their research setting.

The manuscript employs structural equation modeling (SEM) for hypothesis testing, which is appropriate. However, a more detailed explanation of the model fit indices chosen (e.g., AVE, Cronbach's Alpha) and the justification for their threshold values would strengthen the methodology section. Additionally, discussing the choice of software used for SEM and its version could enhance reproducibility.

The presentation of the results, particularly the path coefficients and significance levels, is clear but could be enhanced by including more detailed discussions on the implications of these findings. Specifically, exploring why certain relationships were stronger or weaker than expected would add depth to the analysis.

The discussion section effectively connects the study's findings with existing literature. To further improve, it could benefit from a more nuanced exploration of the findings in the context of Tehran's specific economic and entrepreneurial ecosystem, potentially offering more tailored implications for practice.

The manuscript mentions adherence to ethical standards, including informed consent and confidentiality. Expanding on how these were implemented, especially in the context of questionnaire distribution and data handling, would reinforce the study's ethical rigor.

Authors revised the manuscript.

#### 2. Revised

Editor's decision after revisions: Accepted. Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.

