




Examining the Efficacy of Couples Therapy with a Cognitive-Behavioral Approach on Marital Satisfaction of Parents and Externalized Behavioral Problems of Students Aged 10 – 15 with Autism Spectrum Disorder

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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The manuscript would benefit from a more detailed description of the cognitive-behavioral couples therapy intervention. Specifically, outline the components of each session to provide readers with a clearer understanding of the intervention's content and process.

Clarify if the control group received any form of intervention, standard care, or no intervention at all during the study period. This information is crucial for understanding the context in which the experimental intervention's effects were measured.

While the manuscript reports F and p values, incorporating effect size measures such as Cohen's d would provide a more nuanced understanding of the intervention's practical significance.

The manuscript mentions a follow-up measurement; however, it does not specify the length of the follow-up period. Providing this information would help assess the sustainability of the intervention effects.

Authors revised and uploaded the document.

1.2. *Reviewer 2*

Reviewer:

Describe how missing data were handled in the analysis. This is important for assessing the robustness of the study findings. Discuss any potential confounding variables that might have influenced the study outcomes and how they were controlled for in the analysis. This could include variables such as parental age, educational level, or previous therapy experiences.

While some limitations are mentioned, the discussion could be expanded to include limitations related to the generalizability of the findings to parents of female students with autism or to parents of children with different levels of autism severity.

Elaborate on how the findings contribute to the theoretical understanding of the relationship between parental marital satisfaction and behavioral problems in children with autism. Discuss how cognitive-behavioral approaches to couples therapy might influence these dynamics.

Provide more detailed suggestions for practitioners on implementing the intervention in a real-world setting. Additionally, outline specific directions for future research, such as exploring the intervention's effectiveness with diverse populations, its long-term effects, or comparing it to other therapeutic approaches.

Authors revised and uploaded the document.

2. **Revised**

Editor's decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.