




# The Effect of a Comprehensive Intervention Program Based on the World Health Organization's Functional Assessment Outcomes on the Functional Levels and Adaptive Behaviors of Adolescents with Intellectual Disabilities

Shahla. Akbari<sup>1</sup>, Abbas Ali. Hosseinkhanzadeh<sup>2\*</sup>, Bahman. Akbari<sup>3</sup>


<sup>1</sup> PhD student of General Psychology, Department of Psychology, Rasht Branch, Islamic Azad University, Rasht, Iran

<sup>2</sup> Associate Professor, Department of Psychology, University of Guilan, Rasht, Iran



<sup>3</sup> Professor, Department of Psychology, Rasht Branch, Islamic Azad University, Rasht, Iran

\* Corresponding author email address: [khanzadehabbas@guilan.ac.ir](mailto:khanzadehabbas@guilan.ac.ir)

## Editor

Seyed Hadi Seyed Alitabar   
Department of Psychology and  
Counseling, KMAN Research  
Institute, Richmond Hill, Ontario,  
Canada  
[hadialitabar@kmanresce.ca](mailto:hadialitabar@kmanresce.ca)

## Reviewers

**Reviewer 1:** Maria regina ferreira brandão   
Graduate Program in Physical Education, Universidade São  
Judas Tadeu (USJT), São Paulo, Brazil. Email: [mrfbrandao@gmail.com](mailto:mrfbrandao@gmail.com)  
**Reviewer 2:** Tomás Caycho-Rodríguez   
Facultad de Psicología, Universidad Científica del Sur, Campus Villa II, Ctra.  
Panamericana S 19, Villa EL Salvador, Lima, Peru.  
Email: [tcaycho@cientifica.edu.pe](mailto:tcaycho@cientifica.edu.pe)

## 1. Round 1

### 1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The introduction provides a good overview of intellectual disabilities but could benefit from a more direct linkage between the general understanding of intellectual disabilities and the specific focus of the study on the WHO's functional assessment outcomes. A clearer articulation of this relationship at the outset would strengthen the rationale for the study.

The literature review thoroughly covers various aspects of intellectual disabilities, functional levels, and adaptive behaviors. However, it would be beneficial to include a more explicit discussion on the gap in the literature that this study aims to address, particularly regarding the use of WHO's functional assessment outcomes in intervention programs.

Lastly, a discussion on how this intervention program can be integrated with existing programs or strategies for adolescents with intellectual disabilities could provide practical value to readers and practitioners.

Authors revised and uploaded the document.

### 1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The method section is well-detailed but lacks specificity regarding the selection criteria for the participants. Clarifying the inclusion and exclusion criteria would enhance the replicability of the study.

While the study uses a control group that received no intervention during the study period, the manuscript should discuss the ethical considerations and rationale behind this decision, especially in the context of interventions that could potentially benefit the control group.

The description of the intervention program is comprehensive, but it could be improved by providing more detail on the training materials, specific activities undertaken, and how these were tailored to individual participants' needs.

The manuscript mentions limitations briefly; expanding this section to discuss the implications of these limitations on the study's findings and external validity would provide a more balanced view.

The conclusion briefly suggests future research areas. Providing more detailed recommendations for future studies, particularly in designing interventions to address the areas where no significant improvement was observed, would be valuable.

The ethical considerations are mentioned, but expanding on how participants' confidentiality and well-being were ensured throughout the study would reinforce the ethical rigor of the research.

The manuscript could discuss the potential scalability of the intervention program, considering resource limitations in different settings, to enhance its applicability in real-world scenarios.

Authors revised and uploaded the document.

## 2. Revised

Editor's decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.