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The Efficacy of an Educational Protocol Derived from the Model of Exploring the Damages in Families of Veterans with PTSD on the Function and Hardiness

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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The use of convenience sampling may limit the generalizability of your findings. Consider discussing potential biases introduced by this sampling method and suggest alternative sampling strategies that could enhance representativeness.

While the control group did not receive any intervention, it is not clear whether any alternative activities or standard care were provided. Clarifying this could help in assessing the specificity of the intervention's effects.

The study lacks information on whether the participants or assessors were blinded to group assignments. Adding details on blinding procedures would strengthen the validity of the results.

The Family Hardiness Index and the Family Assessment Device are well-described, but the adaptation process for the cultural context of Kermanshah should be elaborated to ensure their relevance and accuracy in this setting.

Authors revised and uploaded the document.

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1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The manuscript would benefit from a more detailed analysis comparing baseline characteristics between the experimental and control groups to ensure they were comparable at the start of the study.

Detailed results for each subscale of the Family Assessment Device and Family Hardiness Index should be presented separately to provide deeper insights into which aspects of family functioning and hardiness were most affected.

Where results did not show significant differences, these should be discussed in terms of what factors might have contributed to these outcomes, potentially offering directions for future research.

Strengthen the discussion by linking your findings more closely to existing theories and models of family hardiness and functioning. This could involve a more thorough integration of the literature review into the discussion of results.

Elaborate on how the findings can be applied in practical settings. Specific guidelines for practitioners on how to implement this educational protocol would be valuable.

Expand the discussion on the limitations by addressing potential confounders and biases such as the placebo effect, and suggest how future studies could overcome these limitations.

Authors revised and uploaded the document.

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2. Revised

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