The Relationship between Mindfulness and Resilience with Psychological Adaptation: The Mediating Role of Locus of Control in Women with Cancer

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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

Introduction, Paragraph 1: The sentence "Breast cancer is recognized as the most common cancer among Iranian and global women (Swain et al. 2023)" could benefit from more recent or additional references to support this claim, considering the fast-evolving nature of cancer epidemiology.

Methods and Materials, Measures, Mindfulness, Paragraph 1: While the description of the mindfulness measure is thorough, it would be helpful to include more detail on the cultural adaptation and validation process used for the Iranian population by Tamannaeifar et al. (2019).

Methods and Materials, Measures, Resilience, Paragraph 1: The phrase "A score above 50 suggests a resilient individual" lacks context. Consider specifying the distribution of scores and the basis for selecting 50 as the threshold.

Results, Table 2: The fit indices for the structural model are given, but an interpretation of these indices (e.g., what makes a GFI > .90 a good fit) would be beneficial for clarity.

Results, Table 3: Clarify the meaning of the terms "direct path," "total path," and "indirect path" within the context of the study, as well as their implications for the results.

Discussion, Paragraph 1: The discussion mentions "enhancing mindfulness leads to increased psychological well-being" but does not address potential mechanisms. Including a discussion on how mindfulness practices could biologically or psychologically lead to improved adaptation would strengthen this section.

Discussion, Paragraph 2: The role of Locus of Control as a mediating factor is highlighted. However, the discussion could benefit from elaborating on how this mediator specifically operates within the context of cancer treatment and recovery.

Limitations & Suggestions, Paragraph 3: Longitudinal studies are suggested to better understand changes over time. It would be useful to discuss potential design considerations or challenges for such studies in this research context.

Authors revised and uploaded the document.

1.2.   Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

Introduction, Paragraph 2: The transition from global cancer prevalence to psychological adaptation strategies feels abrupt. Consider adding a linking sentence to bridge the gap between these two ideas.

Methods and Materials, Study Design and Participants, Paragraph 1: The selection criteria for participants are not entirely clear. Please clarify how the "206 individuals were randomly selected" from the larger pool of women visiting treatment centers.

Methods and Materials, Measures, Psychological Adaptation, Paragraph 1: The Bell Adjustment Inventory is dated (1961). Discuss the rationale for using this inventory and any modifications or validations conducted for the current study population.

Methods and Materials, Measures, Locus of Control, Paragraph 1: The use of the Rotter scale from 1966 is noted. However, more recent adaptations or critiques of this scale could provide a more comprehensive view.

Results, Table 1: Include a brief explanation in the text for why skewness and kurtosis values are important, particularly for readers who may not be familiar with these statistical terms.

Results, Paragraph 2: The sentence "Thus the assumption of normality for the research variables is established" should be followed by a brief explanation of why normality is a crucial assumption for the analyses performed.

Discussion, Paragraph 3: The discussion on resilience could be enriched by integrating more recent studies on resilience in cancer patients, particularly any meta-analyses or large-scale studies.

Limitations & Suggestions, Paragraph 1: The limitations section briefly mentions the non-random sample. More detail on how this sampling method might bias the results and how future studies could address this limitation would be beneficial.

Limitations & Suggestions, Paragraph 2: The suggestion to include variables such as social support and spirituality is noted. Adding a brief rationale for why these particular variables were not included in the current study would provide context.

Authors revised and uploaded the document.

2.   Revised

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