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Effectiveness of Schema Therapy on Ambiguity Tolerance, Social Competence, Family Emotional Atmosphere, and Individual Self-Efficacy Among Spouses of Individuals Seeking Treatment at Addiction Treatment Centers

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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

"Addiction is characterized by habitual drug use and a perceived sense of need." Consider expanding on the concept of "perceived sense of need" with examples or citations to improve understanding.

The "secure bubble" worksheet is mentioned without detailed explanation. Provide a brief description of the activity or its purpose within the schema therapy framework.

The table does not include effect sizes for the differences observed. Adding effect sizes would strengthen the presentation of findings and facilitate comparisons.

Provide a rationale for the selection of the repeated-measures ANOVA and why it was the most appropriate statistical test. The statement "Schema therapy helps participants replace ineffective coping strategies with healthier, adaptive behaviors" is broad. Cite specific results from this study or previous literature to substantiate this claim.

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Authors revised and uploaded the document.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The statement regarding addiction rates in Iran (Maghsoudi et al., 2019) lacks context. Consider comparing this rate with global statistics to highlight the severity of the issue.

Specify why only women were included in the sample. Was this due to specific characteristics of the population or practical limitations?

The description of random assignment does not mention whether any stratification was used. Clarify if stratification was applied to ensure comparable groups.

The questionnaire components listed are unclear in their operational definitions. Include definitions for terms like "caressing" and "validating" to ensure consistency in interpretation.

The explanation of social competence development through schema therapy is theoretical. Incorporate specific participant feedback or observed behavioral changes to add empirical support.

The description of "revised personal goals and values" lacks clarity. Provide examples from the data or therapy sessions that illustrate these revisions.

Expand on the statement "group environment filled with acceptance and empathy." How was this achieved in the sessions, and what was its impact?

Authors revised and uploaded the document.

2. Revised

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

