

Structural Modeling of Psychological Maladjustment Based on Resilience with the Mediating Role of Ego Strength in Patients with Chronic Pain

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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The introduction outlines the significance of chronic pain and psychological maladjustment well but could benefit from a clearer statement of the research gaps your study aims to fill. Specifically, detail prior studies' limitations and how this research addresses those gaps.

While the review includes relevant studies, it lacks a coherent narrative that connects existing research with your study's objectives. Incorporate a more structured review that systematically critiques and synthesizes prior findings, highlighting the novelty of your work.

The sampling method (convenience sampling) is justified, but the implications of this choice on the generalizability of the findings need more discussion. Address potential biases introduced by convenience sampling and how they might impact the study's conclusions.

The statement on data transparency is vague. Offer specific details on how and where the data and materials can be accessed by interested researchers, and under what conditions, if any.

The paper would benefit from a more detailed exposition of the theoretical framework guiding the study, specifically how resilience and ego strength theories are integrated into the model of psychological maladjustment in the context of chronic pain.

Expand the discussion to integrate the study's findings with broader discourses on chronic pain management, mental health, and public health policy. This could position the study within larger conversations about the importance of psychological interventions in chronic pain management.

Authors uploaded the revised manuscript.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

You have used the Tabachnick and Fidell (2007) formula for sample size determination. Provide a more detailed explanation of why this specific formula was chosen and how it suits the study's design, especially given the structural equation modeling (SEM) technique used.

While you mention the reliability and validity of the instruments used, there's a lack of discussion on their contextual relevance to your study population (patients with chronic pain). Clarify the process of ensuring the instruments' validity and reliability within the specific context of chronic pain.

The discussion on limitations is brief. Elaborate on the limitations related to the study's design, data collection, and analysis methods. Additionally, discuss the study's generalizability in light of its limitations and the specific population studied.

Expand the recommendations for future research to address not just the continuation of resilience training but also suggest other areas where research could expand understanding of psychological maladjustment in chronic pain, such as longitudinal studies examining the long-term effects of resilience and ego strength development.

Authors uploaded the revised manuscript.

2. Revised

Editor's decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.