




The Effectiveness of Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy on Self-Efficacy and Emotion Regulation in HIV-Positive Patients


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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The introduction mentions that AIDS has a high mortality rate. It would be beneficial to include recent statistics on the current mortality rate of AIDS to provide updated context.

Clarify the randomization process for assigning participants to the experimental and control groups to ensure it was done without bias.

The description of the CBT intervention sessions is thorough but could be improved by specifying the qualifications and training of the therapist delivering the intervention.

It is mentioned that the control group did not receive any intervention. Consider discussing the potential ethical implications and whether any placebo or standard care was offered.

The measures for self-efficacy and emotion regulation are validated tools. However, discuss any potential cultural adaptations made for the Iranian population, given that these tools were developed in different cultural contexts.

The use of repeated measures ANOVA is appropriate, but include details on how assumptions for this test (e.g., sphericity) were checked and handled.

The limitations section should be expanded to discuss the potential impact of non-random sampling and any biases that might have

Authors uploaded the revised manuscript.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The literature review references studies from 2003 to 2022. Ensure that the most recent and relevant studies are highlighted to support the significance of the current research.

The method section describes a quasi-experimental design but does not explain why this design was chosen over a randomized controlled trial (RCT). Adding a justification for the chosen design would strengthen the methodological rigor.

The study includes 30 participants. Provide a power analysis to justify the sample size and ensure that it is sufficient to detect a significant effect.

The criteria for inclusion and exclusion are listed but could benefit from more detailed explanations, especially regarding the assessment of personality disorders and socioeconomic status.

Ensure that all tables have clear and self-explanatory titles and labels. For example, "Pre-test Mean (SD)" should explicitly state "Pre-test Mean (Standard Deviation)".

While the significance of findings is reported, including effect sizes (e.g., Cohen's d) for the main outcomes would provide additional information about the practical significance of the results.

The discussion relates the findings to previous studies but could benefit from a deeper exploration of why CBT might have led to improvements in self-efficacy and emotion regulation specifically in the context of HIV-positive patients.

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2. Revised

Editor's decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.