

## Comparison of the Effectiveness of Short-Term Psychodynamic Therapy and Mentalization-Based Therapy on Self-Injurious Behaviors, Rejection Sensitivity, and Self-Control in Adolescents with Borderline Personality Organization

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### 1. Round 1

#### 1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The paragraph discussing rejection sensitivity would be strengthened by explicitly stating whether rejection sensitivity is conceptualized as a trait-level vulnerability or a context-dependent cognitive-affective processing bias in the present model.

The research aim is clearly articulated; nevertheless, the authors should explicitly state the primary and secondary hypotheses to improve methodological transparency and guide interpretation of results.

The claim that adolescents may lack the maturity to translate psychodynamic insight into behavioral change is theoretically plausible but speculative; consider citing developmental neuroscience literature or framing it more cautiously.

The phrase “these mechanisms likely converge” would benefit from a brief integrative model diagram or schematic illustrating the shared pathways of change.

The recommendation to integrate both therapies is compelling; however, the manuscript should specify which therapeutic components might be prioritized at different developmental stages.

Authors uploaded the revised manuscript.

### 1.2. *Reviewer 2*

Reviewer:

The description “60 participants were selected through non-random purposive sampling and were then randomly assigned” requires clarification: specify the randomization procedure (e.g., block randomization, simple randomization) and whether allocation concealment was applied.

The age range (20–50 years) conflicts with the study’s focus on “adolescents” stated throughout the manuscript. This inconsistency must be resolved, either by revising the age criterion or adjusting the terminology across the article.

The paragraph reports both “60 participants” and later “Forty-five individuals”. This discrepancy requires immediate correction and a participant flow description to clarify recruitment, attrition, and final sample size.

The description of MBT mentions “20 structured sessions” while the earlier Methods section states “nine 90-minute sessions”. This contradiction must be resolved for methodological consistency.

The demographic profile refers to participants as “adolescents” while marital status and postgraduate education are reported. This further underscores the age-classification inconsistency noted earlier and must be corrected.

The statement “confirming the effectiveness of mentalization-based therapy in reducing self-injurious behaviors” should be tempered by acknowledging that STPDT did not differ significantly from control on this outcome.

Authors uploaded the revised manuscript.

## 2. Revised

Editor’s decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief’s decision: Accepted.