Predictors of Empathic Concern: The Roles of Compassion Fatigue and Positive Affect

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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

Introduction - Paragraph 1: The sentence "Empathy a multifaceted construct involving cognitive and affective components plays a crucial role..." should include citations for the definition and significance of empathy to strengthen the argument.

Introduction - Paragraph 2: The phrase "Empathic Concern a key dimension of empathy..." would benefit from a clearer definition of 'Empathic Concern' and how it differs from other dimensions of empathy, supported by relevant literature.

Introduction - Paragraph 5: The discussion on mindfulness and self-compassion lacks specificity. Include details on how these interventions are implemented and their effectiveness, referencing specific studies.

Methods and Materials - Study Design and Participants: Clarify the rationale behind choosing a cross-sectional design and explain any limitations this design might pose in understanding causal relationships between the variables.

Data Analysis: The methods for checking the assumptions of linear regression should include more details on how normality, multicollinearity, and homoscedasticity were specifically tested and addressed.

Findings and Results - Table 3: While the regression results are comprehensive, it would be beneficial to include a brief discussion on the practical significance of the findings, beyond statistical significance.

Discussion - Paragraph 1: The sentence "The findings revealed significant correlations and predictive relationships..." should provide specific examples from the results to illustrate these points more clearly.

Discussion - Paragraph 4: The discussion on mindfulness and self-compassion could be expanded to include specific examples of interventions and their effectiveness based on existing literature.

Conclusion - Practical Implications: The section on practical implications should be more detailed, offering specific strategies or programs that organizations can implement to foster Positive Affect and reduce Compassion Fatigue.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

1.2.   Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

Introduction - Paragraph 3: "Compassion Fatigue characterized by emotional exhaustion..." - This paragraph should provide a more detailed explanation of how Compassion Fatigue specifically impacts professional performance and personal well-being, referencing more recent studies if available.

Introduction - Paragraph 4: The sentence "Positive Affect encompassing emotions such as joy enthusiasm and alertness..." should be expanded to include a more comprehensive list of emotions and their impact on professional practice, supported by additional references.

Measures - Empathic Concern: While the use of the IRI is appropriate, the description could be enhanced by explaining why the specific subscale of Empathic Concern was chosen over others, such as Perspective Taking.

Measures - Compassion Fatigue: The paragraph mentions the ProQOL scale but does not explain why it was chosen over other potential measures of Compassion Fatigue. Justify the choice with comparative reliability and validity data.

Measures - Positive Affect: The PANAS description should include information on how the scale's validity and reliability were assessed in this specific sample, or reference relevant validation studies.

Findings and Results - Descriptive Statistics: The demographic information presented in the study could be complemented with an explanation of how these demographics were controlled or accounted for in the analysis.

Findings and Results - Table 2: The table should be followed by a brief interpretation of the Pearson correlation coefficients, explaining the strength and significance of the relationships in lay terms.

Discussion - Paragraph 2: Expand the discussion on the role of Positive Affect by incorporating more recent studies that align or contrast with these findings, providing a broader context.

Discussion - Paragraph 3: The negative correlation between Positive Affect and Compassion Fatigue should be elaborated with potential mechanisms or theories explaining this relationship.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

2.   Revised

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