



Therapists' Experiences with Nonverbal Communication Techniques in Psychotherapy for Children with Autism


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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The introduction cites several sources, some of which are over a decade old. Consider integrating more recent studies to provide updated context on nonverbal communication techniques in autism therapy.

The paragraph discussing neuroanatomical differences (Hyde et al., 2010) could benefit from a clearer link to how these differences specifically inform the use of nonverbal techniques. Consider expanding on this connection.

Clarify why a phenomenological approach was chosen for this study and how it is particularly suited to exploring therapists' experiences with nonverbal communication techniques.

While demographic information is provided, a table summarizing participant demographics (age, gender, years of experience, work setting, educational background) would enhance clarity.

In the findings section, participant quotes should be consistently attributed to specific participants (e.g., Therapist A, Therapist B) to provide a clear link between the quotes and the themes.

The conclusion suggests future research directions. Adding a specific recommendation for investigating the long-term effects of nonverbal communication techniques on different aspects of child development would be beneficial.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The inclusion criteria mention "regular use of nonverbal communication techniques." Provide more detail on what constitutes "regular use" and how this was assessed during participant selection.

The section on semi-structured interviews should include an example of key questions from the interview guide to provide a clearer understanding of the interview's structure.

The explanation of theoretical saturation is important but lacks detail. Include information on how saturation was specifically determined during data collection and analysis.

The discussion on parental involvement is brief. Expand on how parental engagement specifically impacts the effectiveness of nonverbal communication techniques and any strategies used to improve parental involvement.

The section on leveraging technology mentions assistive devices and apps but lacks specific examples. Include examples of successful technological tools used in the study or cited in the literature.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

2. Revised

Editor's decision: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.