Predicting Self-Esteem through Self-Advocacy and Assistive Technology Use among Adults with Physical Disabilities

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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

"Self-advocacy is a critical skill..." - Define "self-advocacy" and provide more context on its components early in the paragraph for clarity.

"Assistive technology plays a significant role..." - Include a couple of specific examples of assistive technologies relevant to the study to illustrate their impact.

"Balint-Langel et al. (2019) demonstrated..." - This paragraph would benefit from a more detailed discussion on how computer-based strategies are implemented and measured in self-advocacy training.

"Gillespie-Lynch et al. (2017) found..." - Include more details about the support systems mentioned and their specific components that enhance self-advocacy abilities.

"The dependent variable Self-Esteem is measured using the Rosenberg Self-Esteem Scale..." - Discuss the rationale for choosing the RSES and mention any cultural adaptations if applicable.

"The significant positive relationship between assistive technology use and self-esteem..." - Discuss potential mechanisms explaining how assistive technology use enhances self-esteem.

"First, the cross-sectional design limits the ability to infer causality..." - Suggest specific longitudinal designs or alternative methods that could address this limitation in future research.

"To build on the findings of this study, future research should adopt a longitudinal design..." - Recommend specific longitudinal study designs and potential variables to be included in future research.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

"The theoretical framework for this study is grounded in empowerment theory..." - Provide a concise definition of empowerment theory and explain how it specifically relates to self-advocacy and assistive technology.

"A total of 244 participants..." - Clarify the inclusion criteria for the participants to ensure replicability and understanding of the sample characteristics.

"Data were analyzed using SPSS version 27..." - Include information on how missing data were handled and the justification for the chosen statistical methods.

"The study sample comprised 300 adults with hearing impairments..." - This seems inconsistent with the earlier statement of 244 participants. Clarify the exact sample size and ensure consistency throughout the text.

Descriptive Statistics - Consider providing more context for the mean scores by comparing them to normative data or previous studies.

"The current study examined the relationship between self-advocacy skills..." - Reiterate the significance of the findings in the context of existing literature to highlight the study's contribution.

"The integration of assistive technology into self-advocacy training programs should be emphasized..." - Provide concrete examples of how assistive technology can be integrated into training programs.

"In conclusion, this study highlights the significant positive relationships..." - Emphasize the broader implications of the findings for policy and practice in the field of disability services.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

2. Revised

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