Effectiveness of the Cognitive Remediation Therapy (CRT) Program on Behavioral Problems in Children Aged 7 to 9 Years with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder

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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

In the Introduction, paragraph 2, the authors cite prevalence data from Polanczyk et al. (2014), yet the sentence "global epidemiological evidence has demonstrated that ADHD affects approximately 5–7 percent…" would benefit from a brief explanation of regional variance, especially since the study is conducted in Iran.

In Introduction, paragraph 4, the sentence "Such approaches include behavioral therapy, parent training programs, mindfulness-based interventions…" provides a list without specifying why CRT was selected over other evidence-based treatments. Please justify how CRT theoretically fits the cognitive-behavioral framework underlying ADHD.

In Introduction, paragraph 6, the statement "Although the magnitude and generalizability of transfer effects remain subjects of debate…" is correct, but the manuscript should review the most recent meta-analytic debates regarding near vs. far transfer effects in CRT. This will strengthen the argument for using a memory-focused CRT protocol.

In Intervention, Session 8 description, the phrase "one-step and multi-step motor instructions requiring categorization…" suggests a motor-cognitive hybrid component. Please explain the theoretical justification for integrating motor memory tasks within a CRT paradigm.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

1.2.   Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

In Introduction, paragraph 10, the sentence "These approaches reinforce the significance of ecological validity…" needs elaboration. Please specify how ecological validity is addressed in your CRT protocol, as the current intervention description does not reference any real-world transfer tasks.

In the Methods, Study Design paragraph, the authors state "36 individuals were selected… then randomly assigned to two groups of 18." This contradicts the Abstract, which states 30 participants. Clarify the exact sample size and justify the attrition process more transparently.

In the Methods, Participants paragraph, the sentence "three participants from the experimental group and three from the control group were excluded…" requires a CONSORT-style explanation. Please specify the exact causes of attrition and whether attrition differed systematically between groups.

In Measures, the use of CPRS-48 should include more recent psychometric validation sources. Additionally, the authors state "Cronbach's alpha… .73 to .95" but do not report reliability for the present sample, which is necessary.

In Intervention paragraph, the statement "delivered in ten structured sessions…" lacks detail regarding fidelity checks, supervision, therapist qualifications, and whether sessions followed a manualized structure. Please include fidelity procedures.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

2.   Revised

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