






# The Effectiveness of Therapeutic Interventions Based on Theory of Mind in Improving Social Skills and Adaptability in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder

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## 1. Round 1

### 1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The statement, “ASD is a neurodevelopmental disorder that affects social interactions, communication, and behavioral patterns”, is overly general. Consider specifying examples of behavioral patterns impacted by ASD to provide a clearer context.

The adaptability scale description mentions “five levels: very low, low, moderate, high, and very high”. Providing the rationale for these categorizations and how they relate to ASD-specific adaptability challenges would strengthen this section.

Table 1 reports means and standard deviations for social skills and adaptability. Including a brief explanation of why these metrics are significant in the text would improve interpretation for readers unfamiliar with the field.

The limitation regarding “lack of generalizability to environments beyond the therapeutic center” is significant. Providing suggestions on how future studies could address this limitation would be valuable.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

*1.2. Reviewer 2*

Reviewer:

The sentence, “Social skills are defined as an individual’s ability to communicate effectively and appropriately in various social contexts”, lacks citation. Adding a reference here would enhance the academic rigor.

The demographic information focuses solely on age and gender. Including additional demographic details, such as socio-economic background or prior interventions, would add depth to the sample description.

The description of the activity “joint attention and learning four primary emotions” is brief. Expanding on how joint attention was specifically targeted in children with ASD would make this clearer.

The assertion, “structured interventions based on Theory of Mind strengthen the understanding of others’ perspectives”, would benefit from specific examples or mechanisms of how these interventions are applied in practice.

The statement, “children with ASD often lack these skills, leading to communication and social challenges”, is repetitive. Consider merging with earlier mentions to avoid redundancy.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

**2. Revised**

Editor’s decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief’s decision: Accepted.