







Examining the Effectiveness of Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT) on Procrastination in Children with Stuttering Visiting Speech Therapy Centers in Tonekabon

Aram. Pezeshki Almani¹, Fatemeh Soghra. Karbalai Heroftah^{2*}, Gholamreza. Sanagouye Moharer²

¹ Ph.D. Student, General Psychology, Department of Psychology, Zahedan Branch, Islamic Azad University, Zahedan, Iran

² Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, Zahedan Branch, Islamic Azad University, Zahedan, Iran

* Corresponding author email address: Karbalaie1400@yahoo.com

E d i t o r	R e v i e w e r s
Anela Hasanagic  Full Professor, Department of Psychology, Faculty of Islamic Education, University of Zenica, Bosnia and Herzegovina anela.hasanagic@unze.ba	Reviewer 1: Parvaneh Mohammadkhani  Professor, Department of Clinical Psychology, University of Rehabilitation Sciences and Social Health, Tehran, Iran. Email: Pa.mohammadkhani@uswr.ac.ir Reviewer 2: Abolghasem Khoshkanesh  Assistant Professor, Counseling Department, Shahid Beheshti University, Tehran, Iran. Email: akhoshkonesh@sbu.ac.ir

1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The article states, "Stuttering is a type of disruption in the rhythm and fluency of speech..." The definition should include recent diagnostic criteria, such as those from the DSM-5 or ICD-11, for greater precision.

The description of the sampling method is somewhat contradictory. The study claims to use "random assignment," yet the selection process is described as "purposive and convenience sampling." Clarify whether true randomization was implemented.

The intervention is well-described, but the control group's activities are not specified. Were they on a waitlist, or did they receive an alternative intervention? Providing this detail is essential to understanding study validity.

The description of the eight-session ACT intervention would benefit from greater methodological clarity. Were sessions conducted individually or in groups? Providing this information would enhance replicability.

The article references Narulita and Yuniati (2021) regarding ACT's effectiveness for online gaming addiction. However, the relevance of this comparison is unclear. A study specifically examining ACT's role in procrastination would be a stronger reference.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The sentence, "One of these psychological disorders is self-perception," is unclear. Self-perception is not classified as a psychological disorder. Consider rewording to "One of the psychological challenges faced by children with stuttering is impaired self-perception."

The article states, "ACT assists in analyzing and altering thoughts and behaviors." While this is generally accurate, ACT primarily emphasizes cognitive defusion rather than altering thoughts. A more precise wording would be "ACT assists individuals in distancing themselves from distressing thoughts and modifying maladaptive behavioral patterns."

The research gap is briefly mentioned, stating that "no studies have specifically examined the effectiveness of ACT on procrastination in children with stuttering." This claim should be supported by a systematic literature review or meta-analysis to strengthen its credibility.

The study used a repeated measures ANOVA, but no mention is made of how missing data were handled. Given that a follow-up assessment was conducted, attrition rates and data imputation techniques should be reported.

The statement, "The effects of time, group, and interaction were significant ($p < .001$)," lacks specificity. Report the F-values and exact p-values to provide a clearer picture of statistical significance.

The claim that "ACT significantly reduced procrastination" is somewhat broad. Given that the effect size is only moderate ($\eta^2 = 0.26$), consider discussing the practical implications of this effect.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

2. Revised

Editor's decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.