

Article history: Received 07 May 2025 Revised 02 July 2025 Accepted 11 July 2025 Published online 26 July 2025

KMAN Counseling & Psychology Nexus

OPEN PEER-REVIEW



E-ISSN: 3041-9026

Modeling Obsessive Beliefs Based on Parenting Styles, Cognitive-Attentional Syndrome, and Inferential Confusion with the Mediating Role of Fear of Self

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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

While stating, "Authoritarian and overcontrolling parenting has been associated with increased perfectionism," the article could clarify whether these findings are culturally specific or generalizable, particularly given the study's Iranian sample.

When claiming "inferential confusion also emerged as a robust predictor of obsessive beliefs," it would be important to explain why inferential confusion might be more cognitively destabilizing than other types of distorted reasoning (e.g., dichotomous thinking, magical thinking).

The sampling method is referred to as "convenience random sampling", which is a methodological contradiction. Clarify whether the sample is convenience-based or randomly selected. If convenience, acknowledge the limitation in generalizability.

The Obsessive-Compulsive Inventory is presented as a 42-item scale, but Foa et al. (1998) originally developed a 44-item and then revised it to 18. Clarify which version was used, and cite the corresponding validation study.

When stating "OCD-related beliefs are not simply products of current anxiety states", it is important to clarify whether the authors argue for a trait-like or schema-based model of obsessive beliefs, and what that implies clinically.

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Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The transition into the current study lacks a hypothesis articulation. It would strengthen the rationale if the authors briefly stated expected mediation paths, e.g., "We hypothesized that fear of self would mediate the relationship between..."

The construct "cognitive-attentional syndrome (CAS)" is introduced with limited detail. Consider elaborating more on how CAS differs from general anxiety-related cognitive patterns, and how it is particularly relevant to OCD.

The sentence "The fear of losing control has also been identified as a central cognitive theme in OCD..." could be enriched by discussing its interaction with other OCD-relevant constructs such as thought-action fusion or inflated responsibility.

The VIF and tolerance values are mentioned as within limits but not reported. Including a table or at least a range of these values would provide transparency and rigor.

The sentence "CAS contributes to persistent monitoring of internal threat cues..." could be deepened by tying it to the broader metacognitive model proposed by Wells and Matthews (1994), which is not cited.

The statement "These findings support the idea that obsessive-compulsive symptoms are multifactorial in origin..." would benefit from more nuance. You might address which factors (e.g., parenting vs. inferential confusion) contributed more strongly to variance in obsessive beliefs.

2. Revised

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

KMAN-CPN
KMAN-Counseling & Psychology Nexus
E-ISSN: 3041-9026