




# Effectiveness of Horticultural Therapy on Improving Memory, Alexithymia, and Severity of Symptoms in Patients with Persistent Depressive Disorder

Mohammad Hossein. Salemi<sup>1</sup>, Elham. Foroozandeh<sup>2\*</sup>, Hossein Ali. Asadi-Gharneh<sup>3</sup>


<sup>1</sup> Department of Psychology, University of Tehran, Tehran, Iran

<sup>2</sup> Department of Psychology, Naein Branch, Islamic Azad University, Naein, Iran

<sup>3</sup> Department of Horticulture, Isfahan (Khorasgan) Branch, Islamic Azad University, Isfahan, Iran


\* Corresponding author email address: Elham\_for@yahoo.com

### Editor

Parvaneh Mohammadkhani  
Professor, Department of Clinical Psychology, University of Rehabilitation Sciences and Social Health, Tehran, Iran.

Pa.mohammadkhani@uswr.ac.ir

### Reviewers

**Reviewer 1:** Seyed Ali Darbani

Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology and Counseling, South Tehran Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran  
Email: Ali.darbani@iau.ac.ir

**Reviewer 2:** Mehdi Rostami

Department of Psychology and Counseling, KMAN Research Institute, Richmond Hill, Ontario, Canada. Email: mehdirostami@kmanresce.ca

## 1. Round 1

### 1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

Consider methods to enhance the study's generalizability, such as increasing the sample size or including participants from diverse backgrounds.

Expand the literature review to include more direct research on horticultural therapy.

Provide a more detailed rationale for the statistical methods used and discuss their implications.

Deepen the analysis of why certain outcomes were not achieved and explore theoretical implications.

Address the study's limitations more thoroughly and suggest future research directions.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

*1.2. Reviewer 2*

Reviewer:

Make minor edits for clarity and conciseness in the manuscript.

Consider additional statistical analyses to explore the data further.

Broaden the discussion on the practical implications of the findings for clinical practice and policy.

Expand the limitations section to offer more depth on potential impacts and future research directions.

Update the reference list with the latest relevant research to ensure the study's current relevance.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

**2. Revised**

Editor's decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.