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Comparison of the Effectiveness of Mindfulness-Based Cognitive Therapy and Acceptance and Commitment Therapy on Intolerance of Uncertainty and Self-Efficacy in Patients with Breast Cancer

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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The phrase "self-efficacy improvements in breast cancer patients" is too general. Specify whether improvements refer to physical activity, emotional regulation, or treatment adherence.

MANOVA is mentioned, but in the results, repeated measures ANOVA appears to be the test used. Clarify this discrepancy and justify the use of repeated measures ANOVA for a three-group × three-time-point design.

The statement "15 patients (41.7%) were in the 50–55 age range" does not match the sample size of 45. That would represent 33.3%. Please correct.

You write "MBCT and ACT effectively reduced pain-related self-efficacy..." This is likely a misstatement. They should have increased pain self-efficacy. Please correct.

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Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The discussion of "intolerance of uncertainty" lacks linkage to self-efficacy. Please clarify whether high intolerance may diminish efficacy beliefs and if this mediates outcomes.

The justification for comparing MBCT and ACT is underdeveloped. Add literature that differentiates mechanisms of action (e.g., cognitive defusion in ACT vs. present-moment awareness in MBCT).

Although psychometric properties are described, there is no mention of whether the Persian versions of the PSEQ and IUS were used and validated in Iran. Please clarify.

You mention "modifications were made" to the MBCT protocol. These changes must be explicitly listed for transparency and replicability.

The labels for "MBCT Pain Self-Efficacy" and "ACT Pain Self-Efficacy" appear reversed. ACT scores are lower, which contradicts their definition. Please check for consistency in labeling and interpretation.

The sentence "ACT and MBCT differed in their effect on pain self-efficacy" is unsupported by Tukey results (p = .231). Revise this to reflect that no statistically significant difference was found between them.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

2. Revised

Editor's decision: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.

