Prediction of Difficulties in Emotion Regulation Based on Internal Locus of Control with the Mediating Role of Emotion-Focused Coping Strategies in Infertile Women

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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

While the introduction describes emotional aspects well, it would benefit from citing epidemiological data (e.g., prevalence of infertility in Iran or globally) to strengthen the context and justify the study's importance.

This section should name the number of clinics and briefly mention response rate or exclusion rate to strengthen methodological credibility.

Clarify whether higher scores indicate external orientation or if the scale was reverse-coded for analysis. This is crucial for interpretation of regression signs in Tables 2 and 4.

Provide Cronbach's alpha values for the present study's sample, not only from prior validations, to verify reliability in the current population.

Include SRMR (Standardized Root Mean Square Residual) as an additional global fit indicator. Many journals now expect this in SEM reporting for model adequacy.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

1.2.   Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

Add a short subsection integrating Rotter's theory with Gross's process model of emotion regulation to clarify how control beliefs theoretically affect regulation mechanisms. This will elevate conceptual coherence.

The research gap should specify why infertile women, as opposed to general clinical populations, present a theoretically distinct context for this mediation. Current phrasing is too general.

The repeated phrases "In the context of infertility" and "emotion regulation difficulties" appear excessively in successive paragraphs. Consider stylistic condensation to improve academic flow and reduce redundancy.

Although normality was reported, mention multivariate normality tests (e.g., Mardia's coefficient) since SEM assumes multivariate—not only univariate—normality.

Interpret the practical meaning of these scores (e.g., what percentile range or interpretation category this implies) to enhance psychological interpretability beyond statistics.

Specify whether Bonferroni correction or similar adjustments were applied to control Type I error, given multiple correlations.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

2.   Revised

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