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OPEN PEER REVIEW

Risk Factors of Suicide in Zanjan- Iran Population

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About this report

This open peer review (OPR) report shows the public comments made on this article during peer review, by the reviewers, the associate editor and the editor-in-chief, for every revision round, together with the authors' replies. Comments appear only with the consent of the people who wrote them. Reviewers who chose to sign their report are named; the others are shown as "Referee". Comments are edited for language only, and confidential remarks to the editors are not included.

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1 Original submission

1 comment · 9 Jan 2021

Referee 1 Reviewer

MINOR REVISION 9 Jan 2021

1. The abstract is too short. Expand the methods part.
2. "Suicide attempt" is not a MeSH term. Replace it with another keyword.
3. You should mention the year after the names of the researchers and write the source number at the end of the paragraph.
4. Mention the sampling method and confidence interval.
5. Describe in detail the validity and reliability of the questionnaires in Iranian studies.
6. Sample features obtained from reviews of descriptive statistics should be given in the results section.

2

Revision 1

AUTHORS' RESPONSE TO REVIEWERS

Authors' reply to reviewers

The next pages contain the authors' point-by-point reply to the comments of this revision round, as submitted with the revised manuscript. It is published as the authors wrote it.

Dear Editor

Thank you for the opportunity to revise our paper for publication in international journal of high risk behaviors and addiction. We greatly appreciate the constructive comments and are delighted for the chance to add amendments to improve the manuscript accordingly.

Below, please find the specific comment (in italics) from the reviewers along with our reply (in commons) as well as a suggestion of revision in the text.

All the changes in the manuscript have also been highlighted (yellow) to make it easier to follow the revision.

Reviewer 1:

1. because the research sample is not selected from the whole Iranian society and is limited to the city of Zanjan, it is necessary to write Zanjan in the title instead of Iran.

Thank you for the note. We replaced “Zanjan” in title.

2. please provide a brief description of the population and the sampling method in the abstract also the the name of questionnaires should be written.

We added this part to the abstract section as follow:

"Methods: Suicidal participants (N = 200, 104 males and 96 females, aged 18 to 40) were recruited via judgmental sampling method and non-suicidal participants (n = 300, 166 males and 134 females, aged from 18 to 40) were selected via convincing sampling method. They completed a battery of questionnaires on family strength, religious identification, substance use, hopelessness, depression, sexual, emotional and physical abuse, impulsive aggression, neuroticism, suicidal ideation, family discord, stressful life events, and anxiety."

3. conclusion needs to be revised.

We revised conclusion section as follow:

> Suicide prevention programs should explore the efficacy of treating individuals with substance abuse disorders, depression, and suicidal thoughts/tendencies on reduction of suicide attempt. Furthermore, family, media and school-based programs with the aim of internalizing religious values would be valuable components of prevention programs for suicide in Iran.

4. ethics approval code should be written in the method or in acknowledgment

We added ethical code number in the method section:

The study was carried out in accordance with the recommendations of "Ethical guideline for research on human individuals of Ethical Review Board of Zanjan University of Medical Sciences," with written informed consent from all individuals (ZUMS.REC.1394/43).

Reviewer 2:

1. Abstract is too short. Expand method part.

We expand the method section as follow:

"Methods: Suicidal participants (N = 200, 104 males and 96 females, aged 18 to 40) and non-suicidal participants (n = 300, 166 males and 134 females, aged from 18 to 40) were selected via convincing sampling method and completed a battery of questionnaires on family strength, religious identification, substance use, hopelessness, depression, sexual, emotional and physical abuse, impulsive aggression, neuroticism, suicidal ideation, family discord, stressful life events, and anxiety."

2. "Suicide attempt" is not a MeSH Term. Replace with another keyword.

Thank you, we replaced it with "attempted suicide".

3. You should mention the year after the names of the researchers and write the source number at the end of the paragraph.

Thank you for the note. However, our rigorous review of Vancouver style of referencing does not mention this type of referencing. In addition, we skimmed the latest papers that published in the journal and again could not find this pattern of referencing. However, if the editor yet wants us to revise the referencing in that way, we will be open to that.

4. Mention sampling method and confidence interval.

We had mentioned confidence intervals in the table 4. we edited the “participants” section to mention the sampling method:

“The study’s participants were 200 patients (104 males and 96 females, aged 18 to 40) who attempted suicide and were referred to the emergency center of three hospitals in Zanjan, Iran during September 2015 to June 2016. They were selected via judgmental sampling method.

The non-suicidal participants were 300 patients (166 males and 134 females, aged from 18 to 40) who referred to the emergency center of abovementioned hospitals in the same timeframe for reasons other than a suicide attempt. They were selected via convincing sampling method. The exclusion criteria for the non-suicidal participants was having a history of attempting suicide.”

5. Mention Validity and reliability of the questionnaires by detail in Iranian studies.

We mentioned theses information in the relevant sections.

6. Sample features obtained from descriptive statistics reviews should be given in the results section.

We now present this information in the results section.

Associate Editor's Comments:

Associate Editor 1:

I reviewed the manuscript .the following need to be corrected:

The following notes was also presented in the reviewers' comments. Please refer to our responses to the reviewers' notes.

1. because the research sample is not selected from the whole Iranian society and is limited to the city of Zanjan, it is necessary to write Zanjan in the title instead of Iran.

2. please provide a brief description of the population and the sampling method in the abstract also the the name of questionnaires should be written.

3. conclusion needs to be revised.

4. ethics approval code should be written in the method or in acknowledgment

1. Abstract is too short. Expand method part.

5. "Suicide attempt" is not a MeSH Term. Replace with another keyword.

6. Mention Validity and reliability of the questionnaires by detail in Iranian studies.

7. Sample features obtained from descriptive statistics reviews should be given in the results section

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EIC Decision:

Dear EIC

according to reviewers the following correction are needed in manuscript:

I reviewed the manuscript .the following need to be corrected:

1. because the research sample is not selected from the whole Iranian society and is limited to the city of Zanjan, it is necessary to write Zanjan in the title instead of Iran.

2. please provide a brief description of the population and the sampling method in the abstract also the the name of questionnaires should be written.

3. conclusion needs to be revised.

4. ethics approval code should be written in the method or in acknowledgment

1. Abstract is too short. Expand method part.

5. "Suicide attempt" is not a MeSH Term. Replace with another keyword.

6. Mention Validity and reliability of the questionnaires by detail in Iranian studies.

7. Sample features obtained from descriptive statistics reviews should be given in the results section

Best regards

2 Revision 1

1 comment · 3 May 2021

Editor-in-Chief

MINOR REVISION 3 May 2021

Dear author,
The changes are acceptable, but the article is very bulky.
Reduce the word count as much as possible while maintaining the integrity and harmony of the text.
Delete the unnecessary parts. Don't repeat all of the results in the text; just mention the important things.
regards,

3

Revision 2

AUTHORS' RESPONSE TO REVIEWERS

Authors' reply to reviewers

The next pages contain the authors' point-by-point reply to the comments of this revision round, as submitted with the revised manuscript. It is published as the authors wrote it.

Dear Editor

Thank you for the opportunity to revise our paper for publication in international journal of high risk behaviors and addiction. We greatly appreciate the constructive comments and are delighted for the chance to add amendments to improve the manuscript accordingly. We summarize the paper as much as possible and now its word count is about 3900 words.

Below, please find the specific comment (in italics) from the reviewers along with our reply (in commons) as well as a suggestion of revision in the text.

All the changes in the manuscript have also been highlighted (yellow) to make it easier to follow the revision.

Reviewer 1:

1. because the research sample is not selected from the whole Iranian society and is limited to the city of Zanjan, it is necessary to write Zanjan in the title instead of Iran.

Thank you for the note. We replaced “Zanjan” in title.

2. please provide a brief description of the population and the sampling method in the abstract also the the name of questionnaires should be written.

We added this part to the abstract section as follow in line 6-12:

"Methods: Suicidal participants (N = 200, 104 males and 96 females, aged 18 to 40) were recruited via judgmental sampling method and non-suicidal participants (n = 300, 166 males and 134 females, aged from 18 to 40) were selected via convincing sampling method. They completed a battery of questionnaires on family strength, religious identification, substance use, hopelessness, depression, sexual, emotional and physical abuse, impulsive aggression, neuroticism, suicidal ideation, family discord, stressful life events, and anxiety."

3. conclusion needs to be revised.

We revised conclusion section as follow in line 16-20:

> Suicide prevention programs should explore the efficacy of treating individuals with substance abuse disorders, depression, and suicidal thoughts/tendencies on reduction of suicide attempt. Furthermore, family, media and school-based programs with the aim of internalizing religious values would be valuable components of prevention programs for suicide in Iran.

4. ethics approval code should be written in the method or in acknowledgment

We added ethical code number in the method section in page 9, line 176-178:

The study was carried out in accordance with the recommendations of "Ethical guideline for research on human individuals of Ethical Review Board of Zanjan University of Medical Sciences," with written informed consent from all individuals (ZUMS.REC.1394/43).

Reviewer 2:

1. Abstract is too short. Expand method part.

We expand the method section as follow in line 6 to 12 and 16 to 20:

"Methods: Suicidal participants (N = 200, 104 males and 96 females, aged 18 to 40) and non-suicidal participants (n = 300, 166 males and 134 females, aged from 18 to 40) were selected via convincing sampling method and completed a battery of questionnaires on family strength, religious identification, substance use, hopelessness, depression, sexual, emotional and physical abuse, impulsive aggression, neuroticism, suicidal ideation, family discord, stressful life events, and anxiety."

2. "Suicide attempt" is not a MeSH Term. Replace with another keyword.

Thank you, we replaced it with "attempted suicide".

3. You should mention the year after the names of the researchers and write the source number at the end of the paragraph.

Thank you for the note. However, our rigorous review of Vancouver style of referencing does not mention this type of referencing. In addition, we skimmed the latest papers that published in the journal and again could not find this pattern of referencing. However, if the editor yet wants us to revise the referencing in that way, we will be open to that.

4. Mention sampling method and confidence interval.

We had mentioned confidence intervals in the table 4. we edited the “participants” section to mention the sampling method in page 5, line 85-91:

“The study’s participants were 200 patients (104 males and 96 females, aged 18 to 40) who attempted suicide and were referred to the emergency center of three hospitals in Zanjan, Iran during September 2015 to June 2016. They were selected via judgmental sampling method.

The non-suicidal participants were 300 patients (166 males and 134 females, aged from 18 to 40) who referred to the emergency center of abovementioned hospitals in the same timeframe for reasons other than a suicide attempt. They were selected via convincing sampling method. The exclusion criteria for the non-suicidal participants was having a history of attempting suicide.”

5. Mention Validity and reliability of the questionnaires by detail in Iranian studies.

We mentioned theses information in the relevant sections in page 6 to 9, line 96-159.

6. Sample features obtained from descriptive statistics reviews should be given in the results section.

We now present this information in the results section page 10, line 181-188:

Associate Editor's Comments:

Associate Editor 1:

I reviewed the manuscript .the following need to be corrected:

All of the following notes was also presented in the reviewers' comments. Please refer to our responses to the reviewers' notes.

1. because the research sample is not selected from the whole Iranian society and is limited to the city of Zanjan, it is necessary to write Zanjan in the title instead of Iran.

2. please provide a brief description of the population and the sampling method in the abstract also the the name of questionnaires should be written.

3. conclusion needs to be revised.

4. ethics approval code should be written in the method or in acknowledgment

1. Abstract is too short. Expand method part.

5. "Suicide attempt" is not a MeSH Term. Replace with another keyword.

6. Mention Validity and reliability of the questionnaires by detail in Iranian studies.

7. Sample features obtained from descriptive statistics reviews should be given in the results section

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3 Revision 2

1 comment · 12 May 2021

Editor-in-Chief

ACCEPT 12 May 2021

accept