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Peer Review Report for "Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder Symptoms and Entrepreneurial Behavior: A Mediation Analysis"

Author(s): Farzaneh Fani Isfahani, Elaheh Sadeghi, Fereshteh Shakibaei, Mohammad Reza Maracy

Review Timeline:

Submit Date: 16 Apr 2022
Revised Date: 23 Jul 2022
Accepted Date: 24 Sep 2022

Revision (0)

Here, you can see the **Reviewers**, **Associate Editors** and **EICs'** comments from the beginning to the end of the revision process.

REFEREE: Reviewer | Revision (0) — 8 May 2022

Dear AE,

This is a worthy work and has novelty.
But, parts of this manuscrpt need to be revised and explained in more detail. For example, the procedure section is brief and needs to be mentioned in more detail, and it is also better to include the scales used in this study, such as the Entrepreneurial Self-efficacy Scale and The entrepreneurial attitude questionnaire, etc. in an supplement.

Kind Regards,

REFEREE: Reviewer | Revision (0) — 30 May 2022

Dear AE,
The study is reviewed carefully. According to comments and revisions by the author, this manuscript is accepted.
Thanks

REFEREE: Reviewer | **Revision** (0) 1 Jun 2022

Dear AE,
The study is reviewed carefully. According to the comments this manuscript needs minor revision.
Thanks

Somayeh Zamirinejad: Associate Editor | **Revision** (0) 1 Jun 2022

Dear EIC,

The study concerns researching the relationship between ADHD symptoms and entrepreneurial behavior with some mediating factors. Testing such relationships seems important for better understanding entrepreneurial behaviors. The sample size is relatively high, and a complex SEM model was created.
Three reviewers have been read this work and all of them agree that this a well written manuscript, and pointed out some details that need to be addressed; and I agree with their evaluation. Here I mention some more comments based on my own reading of the paper:

Abstract

1. The title is unclear as to whether there's a relationship between these variables or whether one has a causal role on the others…? The running title is more informative.

objectives:

1. since there are many variables and examined relationships in your study, I think writing these relationships in separate hypotheses makes the purpose clearer and more understandable and makes it easier for the reader to follow your work.

Methods:

1. In the Participants and Procedure section, "The study size" should be replaced with "the sample size".

2. What were the inclusion and exclusion criteria for the participants?

3. It's been mentioned that the following question was asked from the participants: "Did you intend to start your own business in the future and be an entrepreneur?". Why? What was the objective of this question? Why didn't you include the findings in your report?

4. Apparently, you examined the scales' face and content validity according to Iranian culture, but the relative findings are not reported.

Results:

1. Please use more aesthetic figures in a tidier manner.

2. Report and interpret the coefficient of determination (R2) output of the model.

Conclusions:

1. Somewhere in this section, there's a sentence that states, "…their entrepreneurial attitude toward ADHD influences Entrepreneurship." This does not make sense. Is entrepreneurial attitude toward ADHD? Or is an entrepreneurial attitude an attitude toward launching and running a business?

Kind Regards,
AE

Mehran Zarghami: EIC | **Revision (0)** 18 Jun 2022

Dear Authors,

Thank you for submitting your manuscript for consideration for publication in the Iranian Journal of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences. External peer reviewers have evaluated your paper. Please revise it according to their comments. I would appreciate it if you could do the revisions as soon as possible.

After revision, authors are obliged to upload reviewers' comments in a Word file in which they reply to each comment individually. Please note that the full manuscript file must be highlighted to indicate revised texts.

Besides, please pay attention to the word count limitation:
Word count limits are declared in this link: https://brieflands.com/journals/ij-psychiatry-and-behavioral-sciences/knowledgebase/category/tree#word_count_limits

We look forward to receiving your revised manuscript. Thank you for sending your work to the Iranian Journal of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences.

Kind Regards,
EIC

OPEN PEER REVIEW

Revision (1)

Reply to Reviewers

Ideally, the reviewing process can significantly improve the submitted manuscripts by allowing the authors to take into account the advice of reviewers. Author(s) must reply to all reviewers' comments in a separate Word file, point by point. A "**Reply to Reviewers**" document is submitted along with revised manuscript during submission of revised files, summarizing the changes that the authors made in response to the reviewers' comments. The responses to reviewers' comments specifies how the authors addressed each comment the reviewers made.

You can read the authors' responses to the reviewers' comments in the next page.

Reply to reviewers

Reviewer #1:

1. Include the scales used in this study, such as the Entrepreneurial Self-efficacy Scale and The entrepreneurial attitude questionnaire, etc. in a supplement.

We have uploaded questionnaires in a separate file.

2. Describe the setting, locations, and relevant dates, including periods of recruitment, exposure, follow-up, and data collection

You are right and thank you for this suggestion. We have added further explanation regarding the dates, location, and data collection.

"…A total of 400 Iranian entrepreneurs who were introduced as entrepreneurs on the following Instagram pages @meidountv, @omidiye.tv, and @zananekarafariniran were selected from July 2021 to September 2021 using the convenience sampling method. Initially, entrepreneurs were contacted, and in the case of their consent to participate in this research, the questionnaire link was sent to them....". "…The participation rate was approximately 70%...".

3. Describe any efforts to address potential sources of bias

Thank you for your suggestion, we have added the bias to the limitation section:

"…The present study is limited in some ways. First, this study relied on self-report measures. Thus, the possibility of common method bias exists. Second, About 30% of the questionnaires did not return, and there is a possibility of selection bias …"

Reviewer #2:

1. This is a claim and should not be used at the beginning of the abstract

Thank you for your suggestion, we have changed the sentence to below sentence which is not a claim:

"…Attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and entrepreneurship are two concepts that have recently received increased interest from researchers …"

2. The sentence should not be started with a number

Thank you for your suggestion, we have changed the sentence to below sentence:

"…This study was conducted on 388 Iranian entrepreneurs in 2021…"

3. What was the Cronbach's alpha of the questionnaires in this study?

Thank you for your comment, we had reported the Cronbach's alpha of saif & ghani study.

"…Saif & Ghani (30) approved the validity and reliability of four of its items, whose Cronbach's alpha coefficient was 0.79…"

4. In the sample section, you said that you have selected a sample from 400 Iranian entrepreneurs. So how did 12 people not intend to be entrepreneurs?

Thank you for your comment. We have added extra information about your comment in method and results section below:

"… It is believed that entrepreneurial intentions predict entrepreneurial behavior (24) so for the exclusion criteria, entrepreneurs who were running a business participated in this study, and the following question was asked regarding their intention, "Did you intend to start your own business and be an entrepreneur?". Those who responded negatively to this question were excluded from the study...". "…12 participants had no intention to run a business, so their responses were excluded from the analysis…".

5. Report the average ADHD score of the sample

The average score of the constructs had been reported in Table 1.

Associate Editor:

1. The title is unclear as to whether there's a relationship between these variables or one has a causal role on the others or …? The running title is more informative.

Thanks for your valuable comment. We have changed the title to "ADHD Symptoms and Entrepreneurial Behavior: A Mediation Analysis".

2. since there are many variables and examined relationships in your study, I think writing these relationships in separate hypotheses makes the purpose clearer and more understandable, and makes it easier for the reader to follow your work.

The required information was added to the *objectives* section of the manuscript as follows:

"…This study aimed to determine the relationship between ADHD symptoms and entrepreneurial behavior with mediating role of entrepreneurial self-efficacy and entrepreneurial attitude. Furthermore, the relationship between entrepreneurial self-efficacy and entrepreneurial behavior with mediating role of entrepreneurial attitude was also investigated in the present study…"

3. In Participants and Procedure section, "The study size" should be replaced with "the sample size".

The sample size has been replaced in procedure section.

4. What where the inclusion and exclusion criteria for the participants?

We completely go along with this critic of the associate editor and agree that previous version of the manuscript lacked such information.

"…The inclusion criterion was being an Iranian entrepreneur. It is believed that entrepreneurial intentions predict entrepreneurial behavior (24) so for the exclusion criteria Entrepreneurs who were running a business participated in this study, and the following question was asked regarding their intention, "Did you intend to start your own business and be an entrepreneur?". Those who responded negatively to this question were excluded from the study..."

5. It's been mentioned that the following question was asked from the participants: "Did you intend to start your own business in the future and be an entrepreneur?".Why? What was the objective of this question? Why didn't you include the findings in your report?

The required information was added to the *method* section of the manuscript as follows :

"…It is believed that entrepreneurial intentions predict entrepreneurial behavior (24) so for the exclusion criteria Entrepreneurs who were running a business participated in this study, and the following question was asked regarding their intention, "Did you intend to start your own business and be an entrepreneur?". Those who responded negatively to this question were excluded from the study…"

6. Apparently, you examined the face and content validity of the scales according to Iranian culture. but the relative findings are not reported.

Thank you for your valuable suggestion. We completely agree with this critic. A full paragraph was dedicated to this issue in the *method* section with reference.

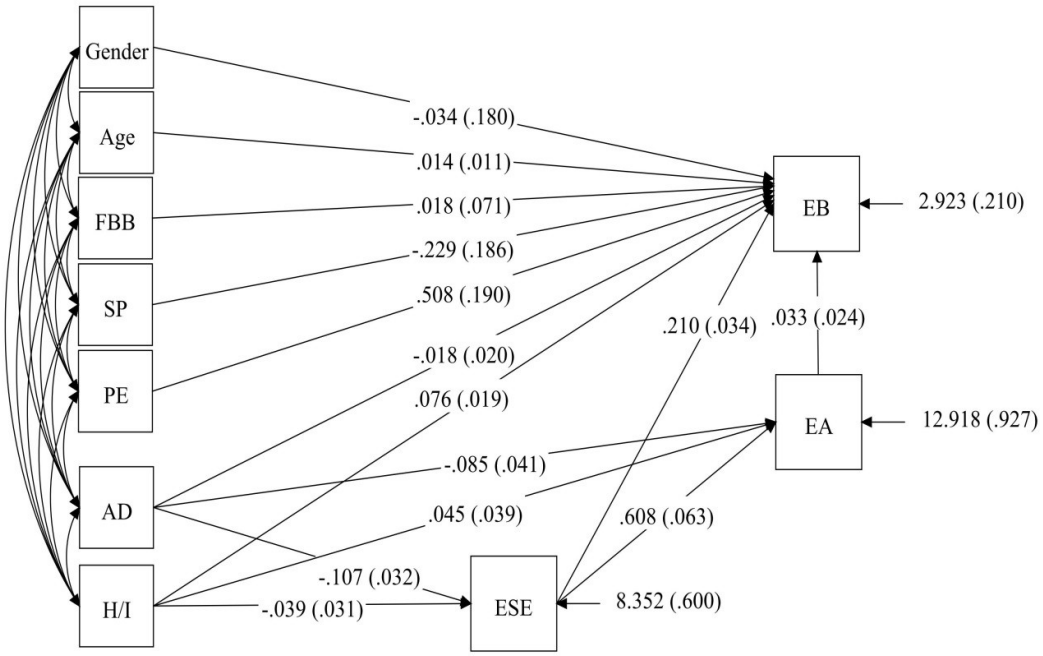
"…Considering the relationship between culture and entrepreneurship (25), we examined the face and content validity of the scales qualitatively according to Iranian culture. For this purpose, seven experts in career counseling were requested to comment on them, and the required revisions were made. Content validity was quantitatively assessed using the Content Validity Ratio (CVR) and the Content Validity Index (CVI).

The CVR= $\frac{n_{E-\frac{N}{2}}}{\frac{N}{2}}$ ***formula was used in which N is the total number of experts and*** n_E ***is the number of experts who evaluate the item as essential. The CVR value for each item was higher than 0.62, which was suitable based on the Lawshe table (26).***

Based on the content validity index of Waltz and Basel (27), the CVI was calculated by dividing the number of experts giving a rating of 3 or 4 regarding clarity, simplicity, and relevance by the number of experts. The values obtained for the items were higher than 0.79. .."

7. Please more aesthetic figure in a tidier manner.

We have changed the figure to an aesthetic and tidier manner as below:



8. Report and interpret the coefficient of determination (R2) output of the model.

Thank you for your suggestion. The referred information (R2) was added to the *results* section:

"…The coefficient of determination (R^2) showed that ADHD symptoms contribute unique variance to the prediction of entrepreneurial behavior through entrepreneurial self-efficacy and attitude with controlling the confounding/demographic variables ($R^2 = 0.188$, $p < 0.001$). The R^2 also revealed that ADHD symptoms explained 5.7% of the total variance in entrepreneurial self-efficacy ($R^2 = 0.057$, $p = 0.013$) and 22% of the total variance in entrepreneurial attitude through entrepreneurial self-efficacy with controlling the confounding/demographic variables ($R^2 = 0.220$, $p < 0.001$)…."

9. Somewhere in this section there's a sentence that states "…their entrepreneurial attitude toward ADHD influence Entrepreneurship." This does not make sense. Is entrepreneurial attitude toward ADHD? Or entrepreneurial attitude is an attitude toward lunching and running a business?

Thank you for your comment. We have modified this part of the *conclusion* section to the right sentence:

"…the beliefs of individuals with ADHD in their ability to run a high-risk business and their attitude toward entrepreneurship influence entrepreneurship…"

✓ *It is worth mentioning that the name of the Instagram page of @jashnvareh.tv, which was one of the pages for collecting the data, has been changed to @omidiye.tv so we have changed it to the updated name in the text.*

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Revision (1)

Here, you can see the **Reviewers**, **Associate Editors** and **EICs'** comments from the beginning to the end of the revision process.

Somayeh Zamirinejad: Associate Editor | **Revision** (1) 30 Jun 2022

Dear EIC,

The authors have revised the manuscript according to the reviewers' comments. There is just one little problem with the number of participants, the participation rate, and the excluded ones; that does not quite add up.

1- "A total of 400 data were collected. The participation rate was approximately 70%" --> 70% of 400 means 280 participants!

2- "However, 12 participants had no intention to run a business, so their responses were excluded from the analysis." --> You were supposed to exclude the participants who had no intention of running a business from entering the sample! That means no sending the link to them. so there would be no need to exclude their responses from the analysis.

3- "Finally, 388 questionnaires were analyzed" --> if the participation rate was 70% then the final number should be 280.

Please provide a clearer flow of participants. Note the difference between exclusion from the sample and from the analysis.

Kind Regards,
AE

Mehran Zarghami: EIC | **Revision** (1) 10 Jul 2022

Dear Authors,

Thank you for your recent revisions.
Your paper has now been evaluated again. According to the associate editor’s comments, it needs some more revisions. Please make your revisions according to these comments as soon as possible. The full manuscript file must be highlighted to indicate revised texts.

kind Regards,
EIC

OPEN PEER REVIEW

Revision (2)

Reply to Reviewers

Ideally, the reviewing process can significantly improve the submitted manuscripts by allowing the authors to take into account the advice of reviewers. Author(s) must reply to all reviewers' comments in a separate Word file, point by point. A "**Reply to Reviewers**" document is submitted along with revised manuscript during submission of revised files, summarizing the changes that the authors made in response to the reviewers' comments. The responses to reviewers' comments specifies how the authors addressed each comment the reviewers made.

You can read the authors' responses to the reviewers' comments in the next page.

Reply to Associate Editor

Associate Editor:

1."A total of 400 data were collected. The participation rate was approximately 70%" --> 70% of 400 means 280 participants!

Thanks for your valuable comment. Part of the sampling was left unreported because we had just reported the final questionnaires, so the required information was added to the *method* section of the manuscript as follows:

"…*Iranian entrepreneurs who were introduced as entrepreneurs on the following Instagram pages @meidountv, @omidiye.tv, and @zananekarafariniran were selected from July 2021 to September 2021 using convenience sampling method. Initially, 650 entrepreneurs were contacted, and the questionnaire link was sent to 555 entrepreneurs based on their consent to participate in this research. The response rate was around 70%, and 388 questionnaires were received as valid and complete ones.. …"*

2. however, 12 participants had no intention to run a business, so their responses were excluded from the analysis" --> you were supposed to exclude the participants that had no intention to run a business from entering to the sample! that means no sending the link to them. so there would be no need to exclude their responses from the analysis.

Thanks for your valuable comment. The way of presenting this point might mislead the readers. Therefore, the sentence was revised and extra information was added to the *method* section as below:

"…*The inclusion criterion was being an Iranian entrepreneur and having the intention to run a business. It is believed that entrepreneurial intentions predict entrepreneurial behavior (24), so entrepreneurs who were running a business participated in this study, and the following question was asked regarding their intention, "Did you intend to start your own business and be an entrepreneur?". Participants who responded positively to this question were included in the sample. The exclusion criterion was dissatisfaction with participating in the study.*…."**

3. Finally, 388 questionnaires were analyzed" --> if the participation rate was 70% then the final number should be 280.

We have added the information in method section.

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Revision (2)

Here, you can see the **Reviewers**, **Associate Editors** and **EICs'** comments from the beginning to the end of the revision process.

Somayeh Zamirinejad: Associate Editor | **Revision** (2) 10 Sep 2022

Dear EIC
Based on the authors' answers to the reviewers' comments, the reviewer(s) have recommended publication.
Kind regards.
AE

Mehran Zarghami: EIC | **Revision** (2) 24 Sep 2022

Dear Author,
We have completed our review of your manuscript and are pleased to inform you that it is being considered for publication in the IJPBS. Note that the publication of your article will only be finalized upon your cooperation with the editorial processing.
Thank you for your fine contribution, and we look forward to your continued contributions to the Journal.
Kind Regards,
EIC