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OPEN PEER REVIEW

The Effect of Foot Reflexology on the Level of Fatigue, Dyspnea and Anxiety of Chronic Respiratory Patients

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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 · 15 Jan 2025

Referee 1 Reviewer

MINOR REVISION 15 Jan 2025

Dear Editor
Thanks to the research team for their valuable work. Some comments are provided to improve the manuscript titled “The effect of foot reflexology on the level of fatigue, dyspnea and anxiety of chronic respiratory patients”:
1. In the results section of the abstract, more details should be provided about the results obtained.
2. Please check the keywords against MeSH.
3. In the background:
- Change citation (10) to (9) in line 44.
- Reference number 14 is repeated twice in a row (in lines 52 and 55).
4. In the Method:
- Given that the effect of an intervention on patients is being studied, it seems that randomly assigning the study participants is not correct. In a clinical trial, it is very important to match the two groups being compared in order to draw correct conclusions about the effect of the intervention. Therefore, it is suggested that the two groups be matched and that necessary explanations be added for both groups based on factors affecting the disease and recovery.
- Where the Ethics Committee is mentioned, add the Code of Ethics.
- Please add information about what educational qualifications the therapist had or what courses he/she had taken in this field.
5. Rewrite the structured discussion.
6. References should be rewritten according to Vancouver style.

Please highlight all the amendments in your manuscript or indicate them by using tracked changes.

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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.

Reply to Reviewer (1):

1.In the results of the abstract, more details should be written about the results obtained.

Answer: I checked it, and as a summarized sentence I added more information about the result based on the important results and highlighted it.

2. Please check keywords with Mesh:

Answer: Actually, I checked Mesh and set the keywords based on it.
3. In the background:
- Citation (10) edited (9) in line 44:

Answer: Based on the references I corrected it, after that by minimizing the manuscript and deleting some additional references, I reset the related reference again and highlighted it.

- Reference number 14 is repeated twice in a row. (In line 52 and 55):

Answer: Based on the references I corrected it, after that by minimizing the manuscript and deleting some additional references, I reset the related reference again.

4. In the Method:
- Given that the effect of an intervention is being studied on patients, it seems that dividing the study participants randomly is not correct. In a clinical trial, it is very important to match the two groups being compared in order to correctly conclude the effect of the intervention. Therefore, it is suggested that the two groups be matched and that necessary explanations be added for both groups based on factors affecting the disease and recovery:

Answer: I add some explanation about matching 2 groups based on what items (participant section) and highlighted it.

- Where the Ethics Committee is mentioned, add the Code of Ethics.

Answer: I added the Ethical Code in mentioned (participant section) part and highlighted it.
- Please add what educational qualifications the therapist had or what courses he/she had taken in this field.

Answer: I added the educational qualifications for therapist (in the intervention part) and highlighted it.
5. Rewrite the structured discussion.

Answer: I revised the discussion part and rewrote the structured discussion and highlighted it.

6. References should be rewritten according to Vancouver style:

Answer: I revised the References part and rewrote according to Vancouver style and highlighted them.

Associate Editor's Comments:

Associate Editor 1:
MS should be written in concise English.

Answer: honestly, I revised all of my manuscript and tried to write brief but comprehensive and also minimize words to 3501words.
The goal of this MS is not clear:

Answer: I tried to write the goal of the MS in a better way in last part of background and highlighted it.

2 Revision 1

3 comments · 3 May 2025 – 15 May 2025

Referee 2 Reviewer — ACCEPT 3 May 2025

It is OK for publication.

Associate Editor — ACCEPT 14 May 2025

accept

Editor-in-Chief — ACCEPT 15 May 2025

Accept