Development and Validation of the Psychological Readiness Scale after Serious Injury (PRS-SI): A Study on Young Football Players

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1.   Round 1

1.1   Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The sentence "Consequently, a serious injury can trigger emotional reactions such as anxiety, depression…" should be supported by more recent empirical references, as the cited works (Brewer, 1993, 2007, 2010) are important but somewhat dated.

The table currently mixes percentage and raw count without indicating n in the table title. Adding "(n = 265)" to the table title would clarify the sample size directly for the reader.

While HTMT values are below the threshold, it would be beneficial to note whether bootstrapped confidence intervals were also examined, as recommended in recent PLS-SEM guidelines.

The comparison with Aghababa & Bagiyan Kolemarzi (2021) and Jalili Shishavan (2023) is relevant but would be stronger if the discussion explicitly related these findings to specific PRS-SI subscales, rather than discussing them in general terms.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the updated document.

1.2   *Reviewer 2*

Reviewer:

The discussion of domestic research (Zia et al., 2021; Kavyani et al., 2021; Mozaffarizadeh et al., 2019) is informative, but the paragraph would be more cohesive if it synthesized these findings into a clearer rationale for why an integrated tool is necessary, rather than presenting them as separate studies.

The justification for combining PRIA-RS and ACL-RSI is strong, but the text would benefit from specifying exactly which domains from each instrument were retained or modified to suit the Iranian cultural context.

The phrase "a level of explained variance that is rarely observed in psychological models" should be followed by a cautionary note regarding the generalizability of such a high R^2 from a single-sample validation.

The statement "more than 44% of participants had been absent from training… highlighting the severity and chronic nature of injuries" would benefit from being linked more explicitly to the need for psychological readiness assessment, reinforcing the clinical utility of the tool.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the updated document.

2.   **Revised**

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