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Comparison of Dark Personality Traits, Self-Compassion, Mindfulness, and Ego Strength in Depressed and Obsessive-Compulsive Patients

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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The opening lacks a compelling hook to engage readers. Consider starting with a more impactful statement about the prevalence or societal impact of depressive and obsessive-compulsive disorders to capture attention.

"The research design was a causal-comparative method...": Justify why a causal-comparative design was chosen over experimental or longitudinal designs. Discuss the limitations this may impose on causality inference.

The description of the sample selection process should include more details about how potential confounders (e.g., comorbid conditions) were managed or mitigated.

"The results of Levene's test for assessing homogeneity of variances showed...": The homogeneity and normality test results are well-described, but the authors should discuss potential issues if these assumptions were violated, even if they were not.

The use of Pillai's Trace is appropriate given the violation of assumptions, but briefly explain why this test is preferable in lay terms for broader understanding.



"The findings indicated that the mean score of dark personality traits...": The analysis is robust, but consider adding a table that breaks down the components of the dark triad and compares them across groups.

Discuss the clinical relevance of the differences found in self-compassion and mindfulness. How might these differences inform tailored therapeutic approaches?

"These results are consistent with the findings of Nguyen and Lee (2023)...": Strengthen the discussion by addressing potential discrepancies or limitations in the cited studies compared to your findings.

Authors revised and uploaded the document.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

"Depressive and obsessive-compulsive disorders cause significant distress...": The authors may benefit from providing recent global statistics to quantify the impact of these disorders and strengthen the argument.

The review of dark personality traits could be expanded. Mention recent studies that have explored the impact of these traits on clinical outcomes, and include more nuanced perspectives on the dark triad components.

"Narcissism is distinct from the more negative traits of Machiavellianism and antisocial behavior...": Clarify the significance of this distinction in the context of psychological disorders. How does it specifically affect treatment or outcomes for OCD and depression?

"The Beck Depression Inventory was designed and developed by Beck...": The reliability and validity details provided are useful but could be supplemented with more information on the cultural adaptation of these tools for the Iranian context.

Provide more justification for the selection of the Dark Triad Personality Questionnaire. Were there alternatives, and why was this tool deemed the most appropriate?

The explanation of self-compassion as a protective factor is insightful. However, delve deeper into the mechanisms that might explain this relationship in OCD compared to depression.

"These differences can contribute to a better understanding of the various mechanisms...": The conclusion is clear but could be more impactful. Suggest specific practical applications or policy implications based on your findings.

End with a strong statement on future research directions. Consider mentioning the potential for interdisciplinary studies that include neurobiological or genetic factors.

Authors revised and uploaded the document.

2. Revised

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

