




Rumination as a Mediator Between Peer Rejection and Depressive Symptoms in Teens




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E d i t o r			R e v i e w e r s		
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1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The sentence “Depression is one of the most prevalent mental health issues among adolescents...” would benefit from citing recent global prevalence statistics to ground the argument empirically. Consider referencing a large-scale WHO or CDC report to contextualize severity.

Although the correlations are significant, consider reporting 95% confidence intervals alongside p-values to increase statistical rigor and interpretability.

Although RMSEA = .056 is acceptable, some guidelines suggest RMSEA < .05 indicates close fit. You might briefly acknowledge that while the model is adequate, further refinement could improve precision.

The reported indirect effect of $b = 0.23$ is significant. Please consider stating the confidence interval for the indirect effect, especially since mediation is central to your hypothesis.

You state “co-rumination... deserves further investigation.” This would be an ideal place to propose specific research questions for future studies—e.g., does co-rumination moderate the link between peer rejection and rumination?

Authors revised and uploaded the document.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The sentence “Empirical research supports the mediating role of rumination...” introduces Monti et al. (2017) without clarifying the age group, which was middle childhood. This may create confusion, given your focus on adolescents aged 13–18.

In discussing co-rumination, the sentence “co-rumination contributes to the maintenance of depressive risk...” needs clarification. Consider briefly explaining how co-rumination differs from rumination to avoid conceptual overlap.

In the demographic breakdown, “152 participants (40.00%) were aged 17–18” – this subgroup skews toward late adolescence. Consider discussing in the limitations how age-related differences may influence depressive symptomatology or rumination tendencies.

The phrase “not only because of the immediate stress...” refers to peer rejection effects. You might enhance this point by linking it more directly to attachment theory or developmental trauma frameworks for stronger theoretical grounding.

You cite Stone et al. (2017) for physiological reactivity. It would strengthen the discussion to explicitly explain the relevance of pupillary response as a marker of emotional dysregulation.

Authors revised and uploaded the document.

2. Revised

Editor’s decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief’s decision: Accepted.