




## The Link between Emotional Awareness and Interpersonal Sensitivity: The Mediating Role of Alexithymia




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E d i t o r	R e v i e w e r s
Bahram Jowkar  Professor of Psychology Department, Shiraz University, Iran jowkar@shirazu.ac.ir	<b>Reviewer 1:</b> Maryam Aslzaker  Assistant professor of clinical psychology, clinical Psychology Department, Shahid Beheshti University of medical sciences, Tehran, Iran.m.aslzaker@sbmu.ac.ir <b>Reviewer 2:</b> Seyed Milad Saadati  Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathobiology (LMP), University of Toronto, Canada.m.saadati@mail.utoronto.ca

### 1. Round 1

#### 1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

The description of the LEAS mentions that it is a "performance-based" tool. However, scoring guidelines and inter-rater procedures are not elaborated. Please include who scored the LEAS and how inter-rater reliability was ensured.

The presentation of beta and B coefficients is commendable, but please specify whether B values represent unstandardized regression coefficients from AMOS, and whether bias-corrected bootstrapping was used for indirect effects.

The statement "These emotional competencies buffer against maladaptive vigilance..." should include a citation from the current literature to support this mediational claim. Consider referring to cognitive-affective models that frame emotional buffering.

The discussion on Egypt as a collectivist society is insightful, but it would benefit from empirical support—perhaps citing cross-cultural emotion studies that specifically reference Egyptian or Middle Eastern norms.

While gender is briefly mentioned, the article would benefit from exploratory analysis or at least descriptive statistics split by gender to see if trends differ. Otherwise, this paragraph seems speculative.

You state that “gaps remain in understanding how alexithymia functions as a mediator...”—it would help to include more detail on how your study specifically addresses those gaps (e.g., cultural context, larger N, validated measures).

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

## 1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The manuscript lacks information on the cultural adaptation or validation of the TAS-20, IPSM, and LEAS for Arabic-speaking Egyptian adults. Please specify whether these instruments have been previously validated in Egypt or whether a back-translation or pilot testing process was undertaken.

You mention multicollinearity was assessed using VIF values below 2.13. Please add which variables were included in the VIF calculation—especially relevant in SEM contexts where latent constructs are used.

Although fit indices are reported, the manuscript should specify whether any model modifications (e.g., covariances, path trimming) were applied to achieve this fit.

Wang et al. (2023) is cited three times in the Introduction. Consider diversifying references or consolidating similar points to avoid redundancy.

While educational applications are touched upon, consider specifying what types of interventions (e.g., SEL curricula, emotional awareness workshops) would be most appropriate and evidence-based.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

## 2. Revised

Editor's decision: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.