




Impact of Sandplay Therapy in Reducing Self-Handicapping Behaviors and Improving the Quality of Life in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

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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 description of the Sandplay Therapy intervention is well-structured, but more detail on the theoretical rationale for the eight-session format is needed. Were eight sessions chosen based on previous studies, or was this determined through pilot testing?

While statistical significance (p-values) is reported, effect sizes (e.g., Cohen's d, partial eta squared) should be provided to indicate the magnitude of observed effects. Including these values would enhance the clinical relevance of findings.

The manuscript states, "The results also emphasize the unique advantages of Sandplay Therapy compared to more structured cognitive-based interventions." However, a direct comparison with another intervention (e.g., CBT) is lacking in this study. Consider discussing this as a limitation.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

The manuscript states, "The reliability and validity of the SHS have been confirmed in multiple studies across different populations." However, specific reliability statistics (e.g., Cronbach's alpha) for the study sample should be reported to confirm internal consistency.

The decrease in self-handicapping scores from pre-test to follow-up is notable. However, the reduction between post-test and follow-up is relatively small. Consider discussing whether this suggests a plateau effect in the intervention's effectiveness.

The discussion suggests that Sandplay Therapy reduces self-handicapping behaviors by enhancing self-awareness and problem-solving skills. Consider incorporating potential neurobiological mechanisms, such as improved connectivity in emotion-regulation brain regions.

Authors revised the manuscript and uploaded the document.

2. Revised

Editor's decision: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.