Reviewer's report

Title: Norm Values and Psychometric Properties for the German Health Regulatory Focus Scale – Results of a Representative Survey

Version: 1 Date: 08 Dec 2018

Reviewer: Juana Gómez Benito

Reviewer's report:

The authors have applied some modifications in their manuscript, however, some sections lack a little more description.

In the background section, the authors are advised to clarify in the third paragraph that what is recorded refers to the German-translated version of the HRFS. This paragraph could be put after the fourth paragraph, in such a way that the sequence would be: first, the subject is introduced in the framework of the WHO, second, the original instrument is addressed, third, relations are established and evidence of the validity of the general constructs of promotion and prevention, fourth the German version is introduced, together with the main findings with this version and contributions of other studies with this instrument, and finally the flaws in the previous studies with the German version are pointed out, which justifies the relevance and objective of the present study.

In the method section it would be important to specify why the PHQ-4 was applied. It is clear that this analysis provides evidence of the validity of the measure, but for the reader it should be specified even more.

Given that the authors have not collected relevant information such as the presence of chronic disease or regarding the participation of immigrants among the sample, it seems appropriate that they consider consigning this in the manuscript as part of their limitations and also suggestions for future studies with this instrument, in line with how they have argued in their reply to the comments.

Finally, providing greater evidence of instrument invariance is not an objective that is far from the analysis of the psychometric quality of the instrument. If the authors have the necessary data they could provide the results of invariance analysis for other variables of interest already mentioned in the first review and which are more cultural in nature.
Reference number 31 must be quoted correctly.

**Are the methods appropriate and well described?**
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

**Does the work include the necessary controls?**
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

**Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?**
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

**Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?**
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

**Quality of written English**
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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