Reviewer's report

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

Version: 2 Date: 14 Dec 2019

Reviewer: Reviewer 2

Reviewer's report:

PEER REVIEWER ASSESSMENTS:

OBJECTIVE - Full research articles: is there a clear objective that addresses one or several testable research questions? (Brief or other article types: is there a clear objective?)

Yes - there is a clear objective

DESIGN - Is the current approach (including controls and analysis protocols) appropriate for the objective?

Not sure - key details are missing from the manuscript

EXECUTION - Are the experiments and analyses performed with sufficient technical rigor to allow confidence in the results?

Not sure - key details are missing from the manuscript

STATISTICS - Is the use of statistics in the manuscript appropriate?

Not sure - I am not able to assess the statistics in this study

INTERPRETATION - Is the current interpretation/discussion of the results reasonable and not overstated?

No - there are minor issues

OVERALL MANUSCRIPT POTENTIAL - Has the author addressed your concerns sufficiently for you to now recommend the work as a technically sound contribution? If not, can further revisions be made to make the work technically sound?
No - manuscript has some fundamental flaw(s)

PEER REVIEWER COMMENTS:

GENERAL COMMENTS: Although reviewer 1 comments have been addressed, I do not feel that reviewer 2 concerns have been appropriately resolved. As reviewer 2 points out, this study and the results does have the ability to bring insight to this research area. However, the paper continues to be hard to follow (results are in the methods, details of the approach (including recruitment) are missing from the methods, abstract is not following the normal structure, etc. I feel that at this time the manuscript is not ready for publication.

REQUESTED REVISIONS:

The design of the study needs to be more detailed including a figure of number of households contacted, number responded, number of questions excluded b/c of missing data, etc. The text eludes to some of these details but it is sparse and not succinct. Once more details are included re the methods and design the reviewer can properly assess if the study was appropriately executed. Similarly, once paper is updated the reviewer can asses the acceptability of both the statistics and interpretation.

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

No

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

No

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

No

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 recommend additional statistical review
Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

Declaration of competing interests
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

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