Reviewer’s report

Title: Psychological Intervention at a Primary Health Care Center: Predictors of Success

Version: 1 Date: 25 Jul 2019

Reviewer: Research Square

Reviewer's report:

"STATISTICAL REVIEWER ASSESSMENT:

Is the study design appropriate for the research question (considering whether the analyzed population accurately reflects the design and whether you see any problems with control/comparison groups, e.g., likely confounders)?

Yes - overall design, population, and control groups are appropriate

Are methodologies adequate and well implemented (considering whether assumptions are addressed and whether analyses are robust)?

No - there are minor issues

Are the analyses adequately communicated (considering whether reporting details are adequate and whether figures and tables are well labeled and described)?

No - there are minor issues

Does the interpretation accurately reflect the analyses without overstatement (considering whether limitations/bias are acknowledged and whether accurate descriptors, e.g., 'significant', are used)?

Yes - interpretation accurately reflects analyses, limitations/bias are acknowledged, accurate descriptors are used

Could an appropriately REVISED version of this work represent a statistically sound contribution?
STATISTICAL REVIEWER COMMENTS:

This is a relatively simple analysis that appears to have been done correctly. The sample size is sufficient, based on a secondary analysis. The key weakness is that it is unclear how the authors handled cases where the clients were still in treatment. For a logistic regression model each client needs to be classified on a binary basis. But those still in treatment have not been discharged. For that matter, the definition of the outcome is not well defined.

REQUESTED REVISIONS:

How cases were classified needs to be clarified.

The number of consultations is a count and may not allow for the assumptions of a MANOVA model to be met. Were the distributions of the residuals examined?

ADDITIONAL REQUESTS/SUGGESTIONS:

The presentation should include confidence intervals around the odds ratios and the sample size of each analysis. The estimates for all variables in the model should be shown, not just statistically significant ones."

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.

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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