Reviewer's report

Title: Companion dog acquisition and mental well-being. A community-based three-arm controlled study

Version: 0 Date: 11 Aug 2019

Reviewer: Maryam Akbarilakeh

Reviewer's report:

Dear,

please consider the following:

- study's problem statement is weak! you should emphasize on the problem in your own context which motive you to such a study. there are many evidences exist which certify that animal ownership improve mental well being. as you said in your introduction! then i didnt understand what is your problem ? what is the necessity of your study? correct it.

the aim of study is not match with your current design and with title!

-what is your main hypothesis? is there any hypothesis?

-did your study a case study? is there any socio demographical characteristics in your context which motive you to such a study?

-Study Design is near to an association/prediction study instead of controlled study! what did you mean by controlled? randomized controlled trials? study design is not convincing. do you mean Acquire a dog within 1 month as an intervention ? i prefer the survey on comparison these three groups about mental Well-Being. anyway, if you emphasize on controlled study, you should Describe the basics of this type of study thoroughly in your research!

inclusion and exclusion criteria for the first screening? randomization? what criteria is the basis for assign people to groups? completely describe baseline assessment results ? complete description of intervention? follow up assessment results ?

-validity and reliability of measures should be described. correct it

-dimensions of measures should be addressed. your psychological construct is very sensitive, good definition of measures and present the accuracy of measures is necessary.

-results;

-you may show the Comparison of Well-Being between three groups by diagram or table. you may show the descriptive statistics and t-test results on the measures by ownership status by
table, and so on. results should be revised after you did corrections and clarify the methodology and your main objectives and hypothesis.

-where is ethics considerations about your study?

discussion part;

-you should write about the implications of your study for your context and of course for the whole body knowledge in this domain

-conclusion part;

-write conclusion?

-where are the limitations of your study??

Be Lucky

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.

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 am able to assess the statistics

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

Needs some language corrections before being published

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