Reviewer's report

Title: The mediating role of resilience in the relationship between stress and life satisfaction among Chinese medical students: a cross-sectional study

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Reviewer: Liuhua Ying

Reviewer's report:

The manuscript examines the association between stress, resilience, and life satisfaction among Chinese medical students. This is an important and meaningful work to render an effective intervention for medical students in Chinese culture. However, I have a number of concerns with this manuscript that deserve attention.

Minor Essential Revisions:

1. The authors noted that “While previous literatures focused on mental and psychological distress among medical students, such as depression and anxiety [3, 4], few studies explored their positive well-being.” However, to my knowledge, there were many studies which examine individual positive well-being among other groups. The authors should cite the studies to strengthen the background of the study.

2. The authors should provide more rationale for the mediating role of resilience in the relationship between stress and life satisfaction. It seems feasible that resilience moderate the relationship.

3. It is helpful to the manuscript if the authors can exemplify the three scales including the 10-item Perceived Stress Scale, the 14-item Wagnild and Young Resilience Scale, and the Satisfaction with Life Scale.

4. Please provide a rationale for why all participants were divided into two age groups: group A (15-22 years old) and group B (22-28 years old).

5. The author used Baron and Kenny's (1986) guidelines to examine whether resilience mediated the relationship between stress and life satisfaction. But it will strengthen the results if the authors can conduct the mediation test statistics which derived from a procedure developed by Sobel (1982).


6. The authors noted that “The participants might have underestimated or overestimated the relationship between depression and psychological variables.” It is not consistent with the content of the current study.
7. In the discussion, the authors noted that “the university authorities could adopt evidence-based measures to enhance the resilience of medical students so as to enhance their life satisfaction.” It would be helpful to expand on this in two or three sentences, perhaps by giving examples of “resilience-based interventions”.

8. More interpretation is needed as to why resilience mediated the relationship between stress and life satisfaction among Chinese medical students.

9. There are several grammatical errors throughout (e.g., missing plurals) which should be further polished by the authors.

**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests' below.