Reviewer’s report

Title: Emotion regulation and its relation to symptoms of anxiety and depression in children aged 8-12 years. Does parental gender play a differentiating role?

Version: 2 Date: 28 Apr 2018

Reviewer: Richard Rowe

Reviewer's report:

Many thanks to the authors for being so responsive to my comments.

I think the authors may have been a little too responsive to comment 9. I recommend they edit the revision to say

"strengths and limitations", see p. 17, line 388. "However as children in our study were recruited on the basis of their self-reported elevated anxious and/or depressive symptoms, FURTHER RESEARCH WILL BE REQUIRED TO TEST WHETHER THESE FINDINGS GENERALISE TO THE GENERAL POPULATION”.

The authors were also responsive to my suggestions about CMV. I agree with the points they make in their discussion of the existing analyses. However, I believe a little more analysis would be helpful in addressing this issue. Reviewer 2 helpfully suggested

"Comment 6b: ...I wondered what the results were when mothers' ratings of emotion regulation predict fathers' ratings of childhood depression/anxiety (or vice versa)?"

I believe a short analytic treatment of this issue would strengthen the conclusions that can be drawn from this ms.

The authors provided helpful detail on the Paternoster test. I did wonder if testing the difference between standardised rather unstandardised coefficients might be more informative on testing the hypothesis in question. So I would be grateful if the authors could address this.

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?  
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