

Peer Review

Review of: "Psychosocial Predictors of Suicidal Ideation in Mexican Adolescents: The Role of Gender, Bullying, and Intrafamilial Violence"

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This study provides a timely and well-structured examination of psychosocial predictors of suicidal ideation among Mexican adolescents, addressing a critical public health issue that remains underrepresented in Latin American research. The manuscript demonstrates several notable strengths, including the use of a validated psychometric instrument (RSIQ), adherence to STROBE reporting principles, detailed statistical diagnostics, and the integration of multivariable modeling to disentangle complex psychosocial associations. The authors present a clear analytical framework supported by robust assumption testing, sensitivity analyses, and transparent reporting of missing data handling, which strengthens methodological credibility. The study contributes valuable regional epidemiological data by highlighting gender differences and academic performance as independent correlates of suicidal ideation, offering actionable insights for school-based mental health screening and preventive intervention strategies. The discussion effectively contextualizes findings within international literature while emphasizing sociocultural nuances relevant to Mexican adolescents, enhancing the translational relevance of the results.

Despite these strengths, several methodological considerations limit causal interpretation and generalizability. The cross-sectional design precludes temporal inference and limits the ability to determine whether academic difficulties precede or result from psychological distress. The reduced sample size relative to the planned recruitment target may also restrict statistical power for detecting smaller effect sizes and subgroup interactions. Additionally, reliance on self-reported measures for sensitive exposures such as bullying and intrafamilial violence introduces potential reporting bias and

social desirability effects. While the regression models are statistically sound, the relatively modest explained variance suggests the presence of additional unmeasured factors, such as depressive symptom severity, sleep disturbances, substance use patterns, or digital behavior variables, which could further clarify risk pathways. The recommendation for AI-supported early detection systems is innovative but would benefit from more detailed discussion regarding feasibility, ethical safeguards, and data privacy considerations within adolescent populations.

Overall, the manuscript represents a meaningful and methodologically solid contribution to adolescent mental health research, particularly within low- and middle-income country contexts. The findings support the importance of gender-responsive and academically integrated mental health screening programs in schools. Future longitudinal and multi-site studies incorporating objective behavioral indicators and broader psychosocial variables would further strengthen the evidence base and help clarify causal mechanisms underlying suicidal ideation among adolescents.

Declarations

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.