

Review of: "The Psychological Impact of Leisure and Rehabilitation Activities in Children and Adolescents With Autism: A Delphi Approach"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Hi,

Thank you for allowing me to review this article.

The author presents a study to better understand the impact of leisure-rehabilitation programmes on the state of psychological well-being of children with autism. The aim was to have criteria to personalise the individual rehabilitation plan by choosing a combination of activities with a more appropriate emotional influence.

The following are some areas for improvement:

- The rationalisation of the study could be improved so that it enhances its value in terms of relevance and originality, covering a lack of research in the literature.
- It is recommended to include more up-to-date references (from the last 5 years).
- The style of the references in the text and in the list should be consistent; some inconsistencies have been detected, and it is recommended to revise it. It is recommended to include the DOI in all references, following a standard style.
 - (eg. Hyppa et al. (2006), Nummela et al. (YEAR IS MISSING), Laukka..., ...
 - Koonlaan, B.B., Bygren, L.O., Johansson, S.E. (2000). Visiting the Cinema, Concerts, Museums or Art Exhibitions as Determinant of Survival: A Swedish Fourteen-Year Cohort Follow-up. *Scandinavian Journal of Public Health*, 28, 174-178.
- Laukka P., "Uses of Music and Psychological Well-Being among the Elderly", in *Journal of Happiness Studies*, 2007, 8, pp. 215-241.
- Grossi, E., Tavano Blessi, G., Sacco, P.L. et al. The Interaction Between Culture, Health and Psychological Well-Being: Data Mining from the Italian Culture and Well-Being Project. *J Happiness Stud* 13, 129–148 (2012). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10902-011-9254-x>
- It is recommended to include a justification of why the leisure - rehabilitation activities and psychological responses list has been chosen and not another one.
- Typos: "response di children and adolescent affected"

- It is strongly recommended to include more details in the methodology regarding the Delphi procedure, also reference to the literature. Same with respect to the Kappa statistical method. The study should present sufficient detail of the methodology to be replicable.
- In figures, it is important to include the legend or labels on the values so that you know what the scale is measuring (eg., 0-10 scale values) without having to go to the text. It is also recommended to check the style (eg., be consistent in the use of capitals and lower case).
- Punctuation missing, last line of page 19: "feelings of stress. But also, walking."
- It is recommended to include a paragraph indicating the limitations of the study, as well as the line of future work.
 - Why has there been no consultation with children and adolescents with autism and their carers? Is it intended to test these potential impacts that have been discovered in the population, in order to be able to affirm that these activities should be the ones selected in case of wanting to enhance the psychological impact?
- It is recommended to improve the discussion by integrating what is currently known in the literature (include references) and what this study has concluded. It is very interesting to learn about other studies conducted by the author, but it is important not to lose focus on what this study contributes to the literature and what the relevance of the results found is for future studies.

I hope those comments can be of help to the author in bringing the work to a state suitable for publication. I have enjoyed reading it and think it is a valuable and interesting work. Thank you.