

Dear Sirs:

Please find the enclosed manuscript which has been revised according to reviewer feedback and editor's comments. Specifically:

Name of journal: *World Journal of Psychiatry*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 19414

- Abstract has been reformatted according to specifications
- Core tip has been written and recorded.
- IRB, informed consent, biostatistics, conflict-of-interest, and data-sharing statements have been included at the beginning of the paper.
- We included gender-specific data (including a table directly reporting them) and gender-specific conclusions. We feel that analyzing prevention and treatment tools is beyond the scope of this research. Also, due to time and personnel constraints, we are unable to re-run analyses by age group.
- We added a statement to the discussion relating to the late publication of the findings due to limited resources. As this is still the first and to our knowledge only study relating to adolescent substance use in Morocco, we still consider the data to be relevant.
- No students refused to participate in the survey; this is stated in the methods section. High compliance is due to the fact that the study was conducted in the class room.
- Moroccan and US grades are only roughly equivalent as stated in the paper; this has been made more clear to better rationalize the cutoff data points in the study.
- Demographic data has been included in the data tables.
- With regard questions about p. 8, 2nd paragraph, 3rd line "is closer to" has been changed to "is similar to" to improve clarity
- For p. 8, 2nd paragraph, 8th line, the phrase "some of the difference" has been better explained.
- Arguments regarding the result that earlier use relates to higher grades have been broadened, and limitations about interpreting that result are better delineated.
- Tables have been changed according to feedback given.
- Comments section has been completed.
- References have been reformatted and include PMID and DOI where available.