

Response to reviewers

We would like to thank the reviewers for their valuable feedback on our manuscript and provide details on how the respective review points have been addressed below.

The manuscript reports a systematic review of clinical researches in pathological internet use. The review is extensive and complete and it could represent an interesting contribute to the actual scientific background.

Thank you very much for these positive comments. We appreciate your feedback.

Following my suggestions: -Revise the manuscript to a native English speaker.

Thank you for this suggestion. A native English speaker has now reviewed the manuscript and English language problems have been addressed throughout the manuscript.

-Please try to consider the efficacy of different treatments on the base of the specific symptoms revealed in the clinical study as reported in Tonioni et al., 2012; 2014.

Thank you for this suggestion. Tonioni et al.'s 2012 and 2014 papers have now been included in our systematic literature review, and detailed information on both studies has been included in both the table and the text. The following paragraph addressing these two studies have been added in the main text:

“Moreover, patients with Internet addiction and patients with pathological gambling received higher scores on depression, anxiety^[26,27], and lower scores on global functioning relative to healthy controls, used impulsive coping strategies, and experienced more socio-emotional impairment. Additionally, patients with Internet addiction differed from patients with pathological gambling in that the former experienced higher mental and behavioural disengagement, which was found to be associated with interpersonal impairments.^{[26]”}

