



## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** *World Journal of Psychiatry*

**Manuscript NO:** 75478

**Title:** The effect of distinct psychological interventions on changes in self-reported distress, depression, and loneliness among older adults during COVID-19

**Provenance and peer review:** Invited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 05427033

**Position:** Peer Reviewer

**Academic degree:** MD

**Professional title:** Doctor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** United States

**Author's Country/Territory:** Israel

**Manuscript submission date:** 2022-01-30

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2022-02-01 20:51

**Reviewer performed review:** 2022-02-01 22:26

**Review time:** 1 Hour

<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
<b>Language quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
<b>Conclusion</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<b>Re-review</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No



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<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: [ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ] Anonymous [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Yes [ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ] No
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### **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

Please revise the manuscript as suggested on the body of the manuscript. 1. The title may be revised as suggested (replace the word techniques by interventions) Some statistical notations to be corrected as suggested 2. The aim of the study (Abstract and the Introduction) - corrected in abstract; should be consistent in the introduction 3. Sample size is very small. This limitation should be mentioned under the section of limitations. 4. The first two paragraphs of the Discussion section must be revised as suggested.



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**Peer-review model:** Single blind

**Reviewer's code:** 03895860

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**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** Lebanon

**Author's Country/Territory:** Israel

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<b>Scientific quality</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
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<b>Peer-reviewer statements</b>	Peer-Review: [ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ] Anonymous [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Onymous Conflicts-of-Interest: [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Yes [ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ] No
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### **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

The authors are describing a study in which psychological interventions have demonstrated efficacy on participant's level of distress and feeling of loneliness during the COVID-19 pandemic. I have the following concerns: 1- The title is vague: It doesn't reflect the most important findings of the study. You need to precise which intervention affected which dimension during 2- The abstract contains a lot of details and is somehow long. The idea behind an abstract is to let the reader briefly understand the study. You might be interested in shortening it. 3- It would be important to describe in the introduction, more profoundly the psychological impact of the pandemic on psychological wellbeing e.g. describe all sources of anxiety (death, loss of job, being infected and infecting others, feeling alone, relational conflicts, etc.). In addition, it is important to give the reader an idea about the severity of COVID-19 outbreak in Israel during the study period. I suppose participants were all locked down but this should be clearly described in the introduction and methods. 4- The term "isolated in their homes" is not clear. Please use "confined" or "in lockdown" appropriately. 5- In the statistical analysis, the use of Pearson's correlation and t-student test should be exclusive to variables with a normal distribution. Was this the case? If not, please adjust by using non-parametric tests 6- In table 1: Correlation matrix.... can you please insert in the horizontal axis what does the nine variables represent? 7- In the multivariate analysis, please put the respective p values after the coefficients Beta and 95%CI 8- Also in the multivariate analysis, the linear regression model requires that the continuous independent variables have to be normally distributed. Was this the case?