

Answering Reviewers

Dear the Editor-in-Chief:

Manuscript ID: 78837

Manuscript Title: Investigating Adolescent Mental Health of Chinese Students During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Multicenter Cross-Sectional Comparative Investigation

Name of Journal: World Journal of Psychiatry

Thank you for your decision on my study.

I have read all the editorial corrections requested and the peer reviewers' comments in detail.

I will explain the changes I made.

The response to the peer reviewers' comments:

REVIEWER 1:

Scientific Quality: Grade A (Excellent)

Language Quality: Grade B (Minor language polishing)

Conclusion: Minor revision

Specific Comments to Authors: China has made great achievements in fighting COVID-19 pandemic. This study described a questionnaire to survey adolescent students in China to determine whether mental health has been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The aim of this study is very clear, and the questionnaire is reasonable. Overall, this study is very well designed and the results are very interesting.

Minor comments: 1. The manuscript requires a minor language editing. Some minor language polishing should be revised.

Response: Thank you for your valuable advice. We try our utmost to follow your precious advice. Although the first author of the manuscript, Bowen Huang, who wrote the draft, is a native Chinese speaker but has published many articles in English [1-5]. At the same time, the paper was also revised by professor Sean X. Leng, a native English speaker. Moreover, we invited Benjamin Knight, MSc., from Liwen Bianji (Edanz) (www.liwenbianji.cn) to edit the English text of a draft of this manuscript.

Reference:

1. Aerial View of the Association Between m6A-Related LncRNAs and Clinicopathological Characteristics of Pancreatic Cancer. *Front Oncol.* 2022 Jan 3;11:812785;
2. Prognostic stratification based on a novel nomogram for left-sided pancreatic adenocarcinoma after surgical resection: a multi-center study. *Am J Cancer Res.* 2021 Jun 15;11(6):2754-2768.
3. A Comprehensive Exploration of the lncRNA CCAT2: A Pan-Cancer Analysis Based on 33 Cancer Types and 13285 Cases. *Dis Markers.* 2020 Feb 24;2020:5354702.
4. Detection of deteriorating patients after Whipple surgery by a modified early warning score (MEWS). *Ann Transl Med.* 2019 Oct;7(20):574.
5. Acute obstructive cholangitis due to fishbone in the common bile duct: a case report and review of the literature. *BMC Gastroenterol.* 2019 Nov 7;19(1):177.

REVIEWER 1: 2. How about the limit of the questionnaire or this study? The authors can

make a discuss about it.

Response: We strongly agree with the reviewer's opinion that this study has limitations. We contacted some schools in Beijing, Guangdong, and Heilongjiang provinces and distributed questionnaires online, hoping to collect representative samples in the central, southern, and northern regions, but they still cannot represent all Chinese adolescents. In future research, we will try to put questionnaires in more provinces to make the results more representative and closer to the actual situation of Chinese teenagers.

In addition, the questionnaire collected data at double cross-sectional before and after the epidemic in a single release, which would be biased compared with the prospective design to collect data at two time points. Unfortunately, we could not predict the pandemic of COVID-19.

REVIEWER 1: 3. The images in the figure 1 is too small, please update the images.

Response: Thank you very much for your suggestion. We have typeset Figure 1. The current Figure is significantly larger than before, with a width of 18cm, a height of 25cm, and a resolution of 1000dpi.

REVIEWER 1: 4. References list should be edited and updated.

Response: Thank you for your suggestion. We submitted the manuscript in Vancouver format, which was typical. Now we have changed it to the World Journal of Psychiatry magazine format using Noteexpress document manager.

REVIEWER 2:

Scientific Quality: Grade B (Very good)

Language Quality: Grade B (Minor language polishing)

Conclusion: Accept (General priority)

Specific Comments to Authors: In this study, the authors collected mental health questionnaires from 3184 students. The study found that Chinese adolescents had different psychological characteristics at different grades, and their levels of anxiety and depression have improved since the COVID-19 pandemic. These findings are interesting. The manuscript is well written. The reviewer recommends to accept the manuscript after a minor editing.

Response: Thank you very much for your recognition of our study. We will continue to make efforts to do better in the future big data population health survey.

REVIEWER 3:

Scientific Quality: Grade A (Excellent)

Language Quality: Grade B (Minor language polishing)

Conclusion: Minor revision

Specific Comments to Authors: This is an interesting study about the adolescent mental health of Chinese students. The students are special and a large group, during the COVID-19 pandemic, the mental health of students needs more attention. This study made an interesting survey and collected mental health questionnaires from 3,184 students. The samples size is enough, and the results are highlights. Although the manuscript is well written, a minor editing

is required for the manuscript. After that, the manuscript is recommended to be accepted for publication.

Response: Thank you very much for your appreciation of our research. In accordance with your valuable suggestion, we have carefully revised the article to meet the World Journal of Psychiatry requirements. It is a great honor to publish our research in such a good journal.

Yours sincerely

Li Wang