

**Quality of life among adolescents with substance use disorders**

Khan R et. al

Type of the review: Anonymous Reviewer/Disclosed Author

**Round 1**  
2 October 2023

**Reviewer's comments**

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to submit a revised draft of my manuscript titled "Quality of life among adolescents with substance use disorder" to the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University Journal. I appreciate the time and effort you have given to provide your valuable feedback on my manuscript. I have incorporated changes to reflect most of the suggestions provided by you. I have highlighted the changes within the manuscript. Here is a point-by-point response to the reviewers' comments and concerns.

**Comment 1**

To use lowercase letters in "Substance Use Disorder" instead of capital letters

**Response**

Revised to "substance use disorder" as instructed. (page: 1, line: 1-2)

**Comment 2**

The objective to compare the quality of life among adolescents using Inhalant and non-inhalant substances is not reflected in result.

**Response**

I agree to your feedback. It was an unintentional typing mistake from my side. It would be "to compare the quality of life among adolescents using single and multiple substances" and it is reflected in result. I apologize for the mistake. (page: 2, line: 98-99)

**Comment 3**

Are the sample taken randomly or purposefully? need to clarify

**Response**

It was taken purposively, which is already mentioned in line no 109. (page: 3, line: 109)

**Comment 4**

To use lowercase letters in "Substance Use Disorder" instead of capital letters

**Response**

Revised to "substance use disorder" as instructed. (page: 5, line: 123)

**Comment 5**

Need to reformat the figure, no need to add the word "value"

**Response**

Revise as instructed (page: 9, line: 180-181)

**Comment 6**

Need to reformat the figure, no need to add the word "value"

**Response**

Revise as instructed. (page: 11, line: 207-208)

## Executive Editor's comments

### Comment 1

The word count of the BSMMU journal for Abstract is 250 or less.'

#### Response

Revised as instructed. (page: 2)

### Comment 2

The Abstract should be structured into subheadings as per the Journal's criteria: Background (that should include a statement of the objective), Methods, Results, and Conclusion.

#### Response

Revised as instructed. (page: 2)

### Comment 3

Introduction: Use smaller paragraphs, especially the first one.

#### Response

Large paragraphs have been divided into small paragraphs (page: 3)

### Comment 4

Figures: Figure 1: Make it a column chart and arrange them in descending order. Drop Figures 2 and 3. Describe them in texts.

#### Response

Figure 1 has been changed to column chart. Figure 2 and 3 has been removed and the result is described in text. (page: 9, 10,11)

### Comment 5

Tables: Merge Table 4 with Table 5 by adding one column for all subjects to the left of single substance users.

#### Response

Revised as instructed. (page: 14)

### Comment 6

**a:** Start the Discussion by reiterating your main finding. The paragraphs should be them-based. Keep the paragraph's size shorter to make it reader-friendly.

**b:** Keep only the main points around the main message of this article.

**c:** Avoid repetition of results of your study and other study. Discuss the evidence provided by the studies. In other words, reduce the numbers in this section.

**Response 6 a-c:** The discussion section has been entirely rearranged according to the primary and secondary objectives of the study and main findings.

### Comments 7

"References. Ensure that the Vancouver style is used. Use DOIs for all journal articles and URLs to all websites. List all authors."

#### Response

Revised as instructed.

**Round 2**  
16 November 2023

**Executive Editor's comments**

**Comments 1**

We kindly request your attention to the discussion section. Currently, it appears to contain repetitions of the result section. We recommend replacing the numerical data with clear, distinct statements for enhanced clarity and coherence.

**Responses**

Thank you for your valuable feedback. I concur with the changes made in the manuscript. I identified one typing mistake on page no. 6 line no 164 where there is an additional word "formed". Please let me know if I should edit it and upload the file again or if the editorial team is going to do this.

Regarding the numerical data in the discussion section, as far as we have gone through multiple articles we could not find any cut point in the WHO-QOL BREF scale which indicates below a particular score the quality of life is poor. It only says that "the higher the score better the quality of life". When we compared the numerical WHO-QOL BREF scores of our study with the WHO-QOL BREF scores of other studies (A study done by Izustu et al 2006 where the demography of participants was quite similar to ours) we found all the scores were low in our participants. So if we do not use the numerical data in the discussion section it will be difficult to make it clear how the quality of life is low in substance users.

**Comments 2**

- a) Kindly incorporate acknowledgments, authors' contributions, funding details, conflict of interests, ethical approval information, data availability statement, and ORCID iDs into the manuscript (marked as yellow in the recently uploaded file). For specific details, please refer to the most recent version of our published manuscript available online.
- b) If possible, kindly include the ORCID ID of all authors; otherwise, we will proceed with yours.
- c) Indeed, please share at most 5 key highlights of your findings in bullet points from the manuscript

**Response**

All changed has been incorporated in the manuscript.