

## REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-53583.

Date: 29/08/2025

**Title: Prevalence of Depression and Its Association with Suicidal Intent in First-Time Suicide Attempters**

### Recommendation:

Accept as it is ☐☐☐☒

Accept after minor revision ☐☐☐☐

Accept after major revision ☐☐☐☐☐

Do not accept (*Reasons below*) ☐☐☐

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality		✓		
Techn. Quality		✓		
Clarity		✓		
Significance	✓			

Reviewer Name: Sakshi Jaju

Date: 29/08/2025

### Reviewer's Comment for Publication.

This study explores the prevalence and severity of depression among first-time suicide attempters and its correlation with suicidal intent. Conducted at a government hospital in Trichy, the cross-sectional study involved 50 participants aged 18–60 years. Using standardized scales, results showed that 44% had no depression, while 10% had severe depression. Suicidal intent was absent in 60% but high in 2%. A strong positive correlation ( $\rho = 0.62$ ,  $p < 0.001$ ) was found between depression severity and suicidal intent. Lassitude and precautions against discovery were significant predictors, whereas active preparation was not statistically significant. The study concludes that higher depression severity is strongly associated with suicidal intent, highlighting the importance of routine screening and gender-sensitive interventions.

### Strengths:

1. Addresses an important public health issue with high relevance in India.
2. Use of validated tools (MADRS and SIS) increases reliability.
3. Clear statistical analysis demonstrating strong correlations.
4. Identifies clinical correlates (lassitude, hopelessness, concealment) that may guide clinical practice.
5. Gender patterns were explored, aligning with international literature.

### Weaknesses:

1. Small sample size ( $n=50$ ) limits generalizability.
2. Single-center study may not reflect broader population diversity.
3. Cross-sectional design prevents causal inferences or longitudinal tracking.
4. Exclusion of critically ill patients and reliance on self-reported data introduces potential bias.

### Overall Assessment:

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## **REVIEWER'S REPORT**

This is a well-structured and clinically relevant study that contributes to understanding the link between depression severity and suicidal intent in first-time suicide attempters. Despite its limitations, the findings highlight key risk markers such as lassitude and hopelessness, and stress the need for early detection and gender-sensitive prevention. The article adds valuable data to the limited Indian context and provides a solid base for future, larger-scale longitudinal studies.

### **Recommendation:**

Manuscript accepted for the publication.