Dear Dr. Jorge Mauricio Cuartas

We are sending you the paper titled “Understanding the Behavioral Pattern and Process of Relapse in Alcohol Drinking: Systematic Review and Future Directions”; for evaluation in the International Journal of Psychological Research.

The review focuses on the concept of relapse and it´s implication to research and clinical practice. Despite the relevance of the relapse construct, its definition appears to be a looming issue in the specialized literature, questioning the utility of the concept and recognizing the absences of consensus in the operationalization the term. Increase the heuristic value of the construct of relapse, require a systematic evaluation of a relapse definition that facilitated across-studies comparisons, that is, reflecting the drinking pattern and measuring the process (individual processes) to relapse.

The paper could be interesting to your readers because it makes explicit the diversity of definitions used to operationalize relapse and the asymmetry between conceptual and operational definitions. But also, we propose an alternative to measure relapse as a process and reflect the whole drinking pattern at individual and group level, and how it changes across treatment.

The paper is an original manuscript, not previously published, and not under concurrent consideration elsewhere.

Sincerely,

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