## Check for updates

### **OPEN ACCESS**

EDITED AND REVIEWED BY Douglas F. Kauffman, Medical University of the Americas – Nevis, United States

\*CORRESPONDENCE Nieves Gutiérrez Ángel ⊠ nga212@ual.es

RECEIVED 20 December 2023 ACCEPTED 13 February 2024 PUBLISHED 21 February 2024

### CITATION

Mercader Rubio I, Gutiérrez Ángel N, Brito-Costa S and Carrión-Martínez JJ (2024) Editorial: Benefits of emotional intelligence in the educational and health sphere. *Front. Psychol.* 15:1359150. doi: 10.3389/fpsyg.2024.1359150

### COPYRIGHT

© 2024 Mercader Rubio, Gutiérrez Ángel, Brito-Costa and Carrión-Martínez. This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License (CC BY). The use, distribution or reproduction in other forums is permitted, provided the original author(s) and the copyright owner(s) are credited and that the original publication in this journal is cited, in accordance with accepted academic practice. No use, distribution or reproduction is permitted which does not comply with these terms.

# Editorial: Benefits of emotional intelligence in the educational and health sphere

# Isabel Mercader Rubio<sup>1</sup>, Nieves Gutiérrez Ángel<sup>1\*</sup>, Sonia Brito-Costa<sup>2</sup> and José Juan Carrión-Martínez<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Psychology, University of Almeria, Almería, Spain, <sup>2</sup>Human Potential Development Center, Institute of Applied Research, Polytechnic Institute of Coimbra, Coimbra, Portugal, <sup>3</sup>Department of Education, University of Almeria, Almería, Spain

## KEYWORDS

benefits, emotional intelligence, education, health, editorial

## Editorial on the Research Topic

Benefits of emotional intelligence in the educational and health sphere

This editorial entitled Benefits of emotional intelligence in the field of education and health aims to address from a double perspective one of the most studied constructs in psychology today: emotional intelligence.

In this way, it contains studies related to the relationship that currently exists between emotional intelligence and education, whether formal or informal, and the educational processes implicit in it. And on the other hand, from a health perspective, it provides different studies that aim to strengthen the correspondence between emotional intelligence and physical, emotional and psychological wellbeing.

In its entirety, this editorial is made up of five manuscripts which analyze emotional intelligence from different types of population, however all of them share the fact that they are focused on the educational context.

However, we should also note that the manuscript by Hasan et al. examines the trait profiles of emotional intelligence in different professionals, such as bankers, doctors, engineers, policemen, lawyers or teachers in Kuwait and the relationship between this construct and job performance. Thus, it offers us a novel vision of emotional intelligence. Likewise, the main contributions of this work highlight the importance of emotional capacity at work.

Meanwhile, fully focused on the educational context, the manuscript presented by Kong et al. analyses emotional intelligence and its relationship with learning anxiety in a total of 470 adolescents in China. The main contributions of this manuscript coincide in pointing to emotional intelligence as a measure to reduce anxiety caused by different learning situations. And how it can become a way to avoid or alleviate such situations related to negative emotions for students.

In the same line of research is the manuscript by Tang and He, who in this case analyze the relationship between emotional intelligence and motivation in a total of 336 university students in China. The main findings of this manuscript indicate that different interventions aimed at developing emotional intelligence also improve self-efficacy, social support, motivation and academic performance of university students. Therefore, it offers a completely different view from that of the previous manuscript. That is, if the manuscript presented by Kong et al. indicates that once negative emotions exist, emotional intelligence can alleviate them. The manuscript submitted by Tang and He shows that one way to prevent these events is to work on the emotional intelligence of students. It also shows that nowadays it can even be considered a protective factor for relevant issues such as self-efficacy, social support, motivation and academic performance.

Similarly, Huang and Zeng analyze in this case the relationship between academic performance and emotional intelligence in a total of 5,703 students in China. The main contribution of this manuscript lies in the establishment of the existence of positive connections between both variables, and in the importance of influencing the development of emotional strategies and interventions in students in order to improve their academic performance. In other words, proving the direct and positive correlation between high levels of emotional intelligence and better academic performance.

Finally, also within the educational context but this time taking practicing educators as a sample, the manuscript presented by Floman et al. examines different dimensions of emotional intelligence, such as regulation and support. They conclude that investing in emotional training programmes for educators has a positive impact on their psychological wellbeing. Thus, it is demonstrated that emotional intelligence in the educational field should not be something exclusive to students, but also to teachers. And that it is an improvement in the psychological wellbeing of education professionals.

## Author contributions

IM: Writing—original draft, Writing—review & editing. NG: Writing—original draft, Writing—review & editing. SB-C: Writing—original draft, Writing—review & editing. JC-M: Writing—original draft, Writing—review & editing.

# Funding

The author(s) declare that no financial support was received for the research, authorship, and/or publication of this article.

# **Conflict of interest**

The authors declare that the research was conducted in the absence of any commercial or financial relationships that could be construed as a potential conflict of interest.

# Publisher's note

All claims expressed in this article are solely those of the authors and do not necessarily represent those of their affiliated organizations, or those of the publisher, the editors and the reviewers. Any product that may be evaluated in this article, or claim that may be made by its manufacturer, is not guaranteed or endorsed by the publisher.

# Supplementary material

The Supplementary Material for this article can be found online at: https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fpsyg.2024. 1359150/full#supplementary-material