**International Prolonged Grief Disorder Scale (IPGDS)**

**Killikelly, Stelzer, Zhou and Maercker (2019 in preparation)**

The WHO ICD-11 Working Group on Disorders specifically associated with stress developed clinical guidelines for the prolonged grief disorder (PGD) (Maercker et al. 2013). These guidelines are structured following the remit of the new ICD-11 to provide: a narrative definition, to include cultural features, to provide core symptoms and be easy to use in the clinical setting (Reed 2010).

The IPGDS seeks to operationalize the ICD-11 definition of PGD in a self-report questionnaire format. The ICD-11 PGD definition is structured to have two core symptoms (item 1, item 2) and examples of emotional pain (accessory items 3-12). Item 13 indicates functional impairment and item 14 indicates cultural norms. The core and accessory symptoms are represented questions from previous measures (i.e. the integration of items from the PG-13 (Prigerson et al. 2008) and the SCI-CG (Bui et al. 2015). A new question on culture norms of bereavement is also included.

*The threshold for clinical diagnosis of PGD is currently under investigation.*

As an exploratory step this draft of the scale pilots the introduction of the cultural supplement (page 3). These cultural supplement items provide further examples of emotional pain that may be more acceptable or representative of grief in different cultural groups. Following the best practice of scale development (Boateng et al. 2018) and guidelines for the development of culturally sensitive measures (Bolton 2008) these items are based on key informant interviews with grief and bereavement professionals from Switzerland and China. Additional supplementary items are currently in development.

*Guidelines on how to score the cultural supplement items and how to integrate the cultural items into the standard scale are pending.*

*Here are draft guidelines:*

**Scoring key (in development)**

STANDARD SCALE

Below you will find instructions on how to score items in order to:

1. obtain a global score for **grief severity:** Create a summed score over items 1 - 13. The higher the value, the more severe the grief.

2. distinguish individuals with **Prolonged Grief Disorder (PGD)** from those without:

Core symptoms:   
At least one of items 1 or 2 must be endorsed with often (4) or always (5).

Accessory symptoms:   
Provisory Regulation: At least one of items 3-12 must be endorsed with often (4) or always (5).

Functional impairment criterion:

Item 13 must be endorsed with often (4) or always (5).

Culture criterion:

Item 14 must be endorsed with often (4) or always (5)**.**

Criteria Description:

Items 1-2: Core symptoms

Items 3-12: Accessory symptoms

Item 13: Functional impairment criterion

Item 14: Culture criterion

Item 15: Time criterion

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