



## International Prolonged Grief Disorder Scale (IPGDS)

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

### Information for clinicians

This scale is to be administered to individuals who have experienced the *death* of a loved one or close person.

The WHO ICD-II Working Group on *disorders specifically associated with stress* developed clinical guidelines for the prolonged grief disorder (PGD) (Maercker et al. 2013). These guidelines follow the new structure of ICD-11: a narrative definition of disorder, the inclusion of cultural features, a list of core symptoms and accessory symptoms in a brief and easy to use format (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 the violation of cultural norms. The core and accessory symptoms are represented by 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.*

*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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