

# Translated Perinatal Grief Scale-Persian Version Requires Modified Analysis

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*Dear Editor,*

The Perinatal Grief Scale (PGS) is the most widely used standardized measure to assess and screen grief after perinatal loss in all parents who have experienced any type of perinatal loss.<sup>1</sup> It has been translated into at least seventeen languages (<https://judithlasker.com/perinatal-grief-scale/>). In some of these translations, items that did not work in translation had to be omitted. This has implications for scoring in research using those amended versions.

As the creators of the PGS-Persian version (PGS-P), which has already been utilized in a few Iranian studies, we consider it necessary to remind researchers who use the PGS-P that this modification is present in the PGS-P and should be taken into account in the analysis and report. After preparing the PGS-P and publishing the results of the translation process in 2018,<sup>2</sup> as mentioned in the article, in the PGS-P after translation and validation, one item was removed from the "despair" subscale (changed from 11 items to 10 items). Therefore, the total number of items in the original PGS was reduced from 33 to 32 in the Persian version. Accordingly, the range of total PGS-P scores and its "despair" subscale score differed from its original version.

Following the publication of two articles in 2020 and 2022,<sup>3,4</sup> despite the use of the PGS-P, the method of presenting the results was based on the original English version of the PGS without considering the changes mentioned in the Persian version.

This inadvertent mistake of the authors will have several consequences:

- 1) Others also refer to these studies and such distortion spreads.
- 2) It also misleads the researchers who compare the different results obtained from this version of the scale in different countries.

It is recommended that researchers, when using a tool in their study, carefully study the used source and analyze their data based on it and then interpret it. Especially in the tools that during the process of translation in a specific culture and language, changes have been found compared to the original version, which will lead to different interpretations and results.

## References

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