# Prospective Evaluation of the DSM-5 Persistent Complex Bereavement Disorder Criteria in Adults:

# Dimensional and Diagnostic Approaches

**Table S1.** Demographic, clinical, and psychosocial characteristics antecedent to and 8 months following the death by grief trajectories

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|   | **Class 1** | **Class 2** | **Class 3** | **Test** | **df** | **P** | **q** |
| **n=73** | **n=46** | **n=19** |
| **Demographics** |
| Age, M (SD) | 43.8 (8.4) | 44.3 (8.2) | 45.7 (8.1) | F= 0.41 | 2, 135 | 0.66 | >0.99 |
| Female, N (%) | 67 (91.8) | 38 (82.6) | 18 (94.7) | FET\* |  | 0.27 | >0.99 |
| Caucasian, N (%) | 61 (83.6) | 42 (91.3) | 14 (73.7) | FET |  | 0.18 | >0.99 |
| SES, M (SD) | 45.2 (11.2) | 41.8 (13.4) | 29.9 (11.8) | F= 5.28 | 2, 94 | 0.01 | 0.11 |
| Months between death &baseline, M (SD) | 8.2 (3.6) | 7.9 (3.2) | 5.5 (2.7) | F= 4.87 | 2, 135 | 0.01 | 0.11 |
| Relationship to the deceased |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Spouse, N(%) | 40 (54.8) | 39 (84.8) | 12 (63.2) |  |  |  |  |
| Divorced or separated, N(%) | 17 (23.3) | 6 (10.9) | 1 (5.3) | FET |  | 0.002 | 0.07 |
| Other relative, N(%) | 16 (21.9) | 2 (4.3) | 6 (31.6) |  |  |  |  |
| Type of death  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Suicide, N (%) | 25 (34.2) | 18 (39.1) | 6 (31.6) |  |  |  |  |
| Accident, N (%) | 18 (24.7) | 9 (19.6) | 5 (26.3) | FET |  | 0.95 | >0.99 |
| Sudden natural, N (%) | 30 (41.1) | 19 (41.3) | 8 (42.1) |  |  |  |  |
| **Psychiatric History** |
| Depression, N (%) | 33 (45.2) | 21 (45.7) | 11 (57.9) | χ2= 1.03 | 2 | 0.60 | >0.99 |
| Bipolar, N (%) | 1 (1.4) | 1 (2.2) | 5 (26.3) | FET |  | 0.001 | 0.07 |
| Anxiety, N (%) | 21 (28.7) | 18 (39.1) | 10 (52.6) | χ2= 4.13 | 2 | 0.13 | 0.88 |
| PTSD, N (%) | 9 (12.3) | 5 (10.9) | 2 (10.5) | FET |  | >0.99 | >0.99 |
| Alcohol or substance abuse, N (%) | 15 (20.8) | 14 (32.6) | 8 (47.1) | FET |  | 0.07 | 0.59 |
| Any personality disorder, N (%) | 0 (0.0) | 3 (6.5) | 2 (10.5) | FET |  | 0.02 | 0.19 |
| **Health and psychosocial profile before the death** |
| Life events before death, M (SD) | 1.9 (2.1) | 2.5 (3.2) | 2.0 (2.2) | F= 0.77 | 2, 123 | 0.46 | >0.99 |
| History of abuse, N (%) | 29 (39.7) | 16 (34.8) | 15 (78.9) | χ2=11.56 | 2 | 0.003 | 0.07 |
| Fair or poor health, N (%) | 6 (8.2) | 11 (23.9) | 7 (36.7) | FET |  | 0.004 | 0.07 |
| Any chronic disease, N (%) | 33 (48.5) | 39 (62.2) | 12 (63.2) | χ2= 2.61 | 2 | 0.27 | >0.99 |
| Warm & affectionate relationship with deceased, M (SD) | 1.7 (1.0) | 2.0 (1.0) | 2.1 (1.2) | F= 1.15 | 2, 83 | 0.32 | >0.99 |
| Tense & hostile relationship with deceased, M (SD) | 1.7 (1.0) | 2.2 (1.3) | 2.4 (1.3) | F= 2.68 | 2, 83 | 0.08 | 0.60 |
| **New-onset Axis I disorders** |
| Depression, N (%) | 15 (21.4)a | 23 (59.0)b | 9 (56.2)b | χ2=17.77 | 2 | <0.001 | <0.001 |
| Anxiety, N (%) | 6 (8.6) | 6 (16.2) | 3 (21.4) | FET\* |  | 0.24 | >0.99 |
| PTSD, N (%) | 3 (4.2)a | 19 (43.2)b | 13 (72.2)b | FET |  | <0.001 | <0.001 |
| Alcohol or substance abuse, N (%) | 0 (0.0)a | 5 (10.9)b | 1 (5.6)ab | FET |  | 0.009 | 0.05 |
| **Self-reported symptomatology** |
| Depression, M (SD) | 6.4 (6.1)a | 16.4 (9.2)b | 27.5 (9.8)c | F= 58.25 | 2, 125 | <0.001 | <0.001 |
| Anxiety, M (SD) | 3.9 (4.6)a | 13.1 (12.2)b | 23.3 (15.1)c | F= 32.45 | 2, 126 | <0.001 | <0.001 |
| PTSD, M (SD) | 3.7 (6.1)a | 14.3 (9.9)b | 24.8 (9.4)c | F= 56.06 | 2, 121 | <0.001 | <0.001 |
| Hopelessness, M (SD) | 3.1 (3.5)a | 7.2 (5.2)b | 11.4 (6.3)c | F= 26.20 | 2, 125 | <0.001 | <0.001 |
| Suicidal ideation, M (SD) | 8.1 (11.7)a | 10.4 (9.4)a | 27.2 (22.6)b | F= 14.94 | 2, 126 | <0.001 | <0.001 |
| Functional status\*\*, M (SD) | 81.1 (9.9)a | 69.7 (9.3)b | 57.7 (8.9)c | F= 52.19 | 2, 134 | <0.001 | <0.001 |
| **Psychosocial profile**  |
| Life events after death, M (SD) | 2.9 (3.0) | 3.5 (2.8) | 3.6 (2.5) | F= 0.69 | 2, 123 | 0.51 | >0.99 |
| Self-esteemƒ, M (SD) | 12.6 (4.7)a | 15.3 (5.5)b | 22.8 (6.3)c | F= 24.75 | 2, 124 | <0.001 | <0.001 |
| Family adaptability & cohesion, M (SD) | 55.4 (7.8)a | 53.4 (7.9)a | 46.6 (9.9) b | F= 8.02 | 2, 124 | 0.001 | 0.01 |
| Aggression, M (SD) | 52.5 (14.0)a | 60.4 (17.5)b | 73.1 (23.1)c | F= 11.05 | 2, 123 | <0.001 | <0.001 |
| Social support, M (SD) | 73.4 (14.9)a | 67.9 (14.9)ab | 61.4 (12.0)b | F= 5.26 | 2, 126 | 0.006 | 0.03 |
| Self-blame, M (SD) | 7.3 (4.1)a | 13.0 (7.4) b | 14.2 (7.6) b | F= 17.16 | 2, 125 | <0.001 | <0.001 |
| Ways of coping, M (SD) | 56.9 (19.7) | 58.3 (17.0) | 59.8 (14.5) | F= 0.20 | 2, 125 | 0.82 | >0.99 |
| Locus of control, M (SD) | 22.8 (2.9)a | 21.6 (3.8)ab | 19.9 (4.5)b | F= 5.05 | 2, 124 | 0.008 | 0.04 |
| **Physical health profile** |
| Fair or poor health, N (%) | 7 (9.6)a | 13 (28.3)b | 10 (52.6)b | FET |  | <0.001 | <0.001 |
| Any somatic complaint, N (%) | 34 (46.6)a | 36 (78.3)b | 17 (89.5)b | χ2= 18.77 | 2 | <0.001 | <0.001 |
| Increased medication use, N (%) | 10 (15.2)a | 16 (36.4)b | 9 (47.4)b | χ2= 10.62 | 2 | 0.005 | 0.03 |
| **Circumstances of exposure to death** |
| Feeling that something could have been done to prevent the death, N (%) | 25 (39.1)a | 26 (63.4)ab | 15 (78.9)b | χ2= 11.92 | 2 | 0.003 | 0.02 |
| Feeling other people accountable for the death, N (%) | 25 (34.2)a | 33 (71.7)b | 13 (68.4)b | χ2= 18.42 | 2 | <0.001 | <0.001 |
| Feeling other people blame you for the death, N (%) | 12 (16.4) | 15 (32.6) | 9 (47.4) | FET |  | 0.01 | 0.06 |
| Being at the scene, N (%) | 35 (47.9) | 27 (58.7) | 11 (57.9) | χ2=1.53 | 2 | 0.47 | >0.99 |
| Time since last spoke to the deceased (< 24 hours), N (%) | 41 (56.2) | 33 (71.7) | 16 (84.2) | χ2=6.52 | 2 | 0.04 | 0.18 |

Letters indicate post-hoc comparisons where different letters reflect significant post-hoc differences at α=0.05/3=0.017.

\*Fisher’s exact test; \*\*Lower scores correspond to worse functional impairment; ƒHigher scores correspond to lower self-esteem