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| **ISA ISPID  Abstract Submission  Nº: 254**   |  | | --- | | Topics: **Stillbirth** | | Type: **Poster** | | **Italian validation of the Perinatal Grief Scale** | | **Ravaldi, Claudia**1; **Avagliano, Laura**2; **Levi, Miriam**3; **Biffino, Marco**4; **Romeo, Gianpaolo**3; **Bonaiuti, Roberto**5; **Vannacci, Alfredo**6 *1 - CiaoLapo Onlus, Charity for High-Risk Pregnancies and Perinatal Grief Support, Prato, Italy. 2 - Department of Health Sciences, San Paolo Hospital Medical School, University of Milan, Milan, Italy. 3 - Department of Health Sciences, University of Florence, Florence, Italy. 4 - Department of Experimental and Clinical Medicine, University of Florence, Florence, Italy. 5 - Department of Neurosciences, Psychology, Drug Research and Child Health, University of Florence, Florence, Italy. 6 - CiaoLapo Onlus, Charity for High-Risk Pregnancies and Perinatal Grief Support, Prato, Italy; Department of Neurosciences, Psychology, Drug Research and Child Health, University of Florence, Florence, Italy.* | | **Introduction** Worldwide, perinatal loss affects about 1.8% of all pregnancies. In Italy, the rate is 1 in every 200 births, i.e. every day, approximately nine couples lose their baby before or soon after delivery, suddenly becoming bereaved parents. Bereaved parents are at high risk of having their understandable suffering misinterpreted as sign of a mental disorder, since several symptoms, including sleep disturbances, fatigue, anhedonia, changes in appetite, enduring emotional distress and suicidal ideation, are common with depression. For this reason, the progression of the mourning process after perinatal loss should be accurately evaluated. A simple and complete instrument developed with this purpose is represented by the Perinatal Grief Scale (PGS), a tool which incorporates and evaluates the different dimensions of grief. The present study is the first attempt to validate the PGS for the Italian population.  **Objective:** To translate the PGS into Italian and to test the validity of translated scale through a pilot study.  **Material and Methods** The English version of the PGS as published by Potvin *et al.* was adapted for Italy using a translation/back-translation process: with such a process, not only the linguistic and grammatical issues, but also the cultural differences could be taken into account. The final Italian version of the questionnaire was translated back into English by a professional Australian English teacher and translator, blinded of the original version. The survey was then administered online to a sample of 16 Italian / English bilingual women who had experienced a perinatal loss in the previous three years. The bereaved mothers answered the survey three times: the first time in Italian, after one week they were administered the original version in English, and after one more week they answered the Italian version again. The intra-personal correlations were compared and analysed with weighted kappa-coefficient.  **Results** The weighted kappa-coefficient  for the Total PGS was 0.92 between the first and the second administration, it was 0.94 between the second and the third administration and it was 0.88 between the first and the third administration. These figure indicates good agreement and reproducibility. Internal consistency was evaluated via Cronbach’alpha coefficient and it showed to be very high, ranging from 0.83 of Difficulty of Copying subscale (11 items) to 0.96 of Total PGS scale (33 items).  **Conclusions** In our culture, perinatal loss and grief are still cultural taboos and healthcare professionals are not adequately trained to help bereaved families cope with them. Nonetheless, perinatal grief, if not worked out, can turn into complicated grief, influencing relationship with living and possible future children. The PGS is an important instrument of primary prevention that allow the identification of women at risk of developing complicated forms of grief after perinatal loss and therefore needing of specific support. We were able to successfully translate the PGS into Italian. The Italian version of the GPS can be used by health care professionals to assess the responses of Italian women to stillbirth and perinatal loss, as well as by researchers for research purposes. | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | **CONTACT** | | | Name: | **Claudia** | | Lastname: | **Ravaldi** | | E-mail: | **claudia.ravaldi@gmail.com** | | Country: | **Italy** | | Institution | **CiaoLapo Onlus, Charity for High-Risk Pregnancies and Perinatal Grief Support, Prato, Italy** | | Cellphone: | **0039 3470465494** | | City: | **Prato** | |