Reviewer’s report

Title: Assessment of Grief-Related Rumination: Validation of the German Version of the Utrecht Grief Rumination Scale (UGRS)

Version: 0 Date: 15 Dec 2017

Reviewer: EJ White

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Manuscript number: BPSY-D-17-00728

Title: Assessment of Grief-Related Rumination: Validation of the German Version of the Utrecht Grief Rumination Scale (UGRS)

This manuscript "Assessment of Grief-Related Rumination: Validation of the German Version of the Utrecht Grief Rumination Scale (UGRS)" examines the factor structure, convergent validity, divergent validity, concurrent validity, and discriminant validity of a German translation of the UGRS. The study aimed to extend the utility of the UGRS to a German speaking population through validation of this measure. The study examined factor structure and validity of the measure in a sample of 159 bereaved participants recruited online. The present paper addresses an important topic of research, with a large sample size, replicates previous factor structure research, and includes thorough analysis of validity. The current version of the manuscript is not without limitations; these are discussed below:

1. The manuscript would be strengthened by clarifying the amount of incomplete data which necessitated exclusion from the study. In section 2.1 authors report that 28 participants were excluded due to incomplete data; however, in section 2.2.5 authors report that missing data was replaced according to questionnaire instructions.
   a. It would be beneficial for the authors to clarify how the determination to remove or include an individual with replaced missing data was made.
   b. In the case that an individual was included with replaced missing data it would be helpful to the reader for the authors to include the following information: how many individuals include some form of imputed data; how data was imputed for each specific questionnaire.

2. The reader would benefit from an expanded rationale in section 2.3 regarding the divergent validity prediction that grief rumination should be less closely related to reflection. Although this is consistent with previous research, it would be helpful to readers to include a sentence here referencing previous research indicating why this would be expected.
Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
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Yes

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