Author’s response to reviews

Title: A New Conception and Subsequent Taxonomy of Clinical Psychological Problems

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dr Darren Byrne, 2nd June, 2019
Manuscript Editor, BMC Psychology.

Dear Dr Byrne,

I am re-submitting my manuscript entitled “A New Conception and Subsequent Taxonomy of Clinical Psychological Problems” with the final few changes recommended by reviewer Dr Bo Bach.

As the requested changes are very limited, I have not used Track Changes this time, but instead have described below the precise changes and additions, and their locations.

(a) In the main manuscript, Dr Bach has specified only one change, to the final sentence of paragraph 3 on page 8. The section “ICD-11 diagnoses….dimensions.” now reads, more accurately, “ICD-11 diagnoses Personality Disorder via global evaluation of personality functioning, where the clinician may specify 5 evidence-based trait dimensions that contribute to the unique expression of personality disturbance.” The file name now has a ‘4’ in it instead of a ‘3’.

(b) Several changes have been made to Table 2 (“Kinds” of psychological problems”) to update its terminology and categories to align with the impending ICD-11: (i) As Dr Bach has suggested, to the list of ‘Type I General psychological problems’ have been added “Personality difficulty” and “Burnout”, as these are now recognised in ICD-11 as codable but diagnostically subthreshold problems. (ii) To the list of ‘Type II Clinical psychological problems’ (CPPs) has been added “Prolonged Grief Disorder”, as ICD-11 has now included and discerned this CPP, which is discussed in the body of the manuscript in terms of ‘complicated bereavement’ or ‘prolonged grief’. (iii) As OCD and PTSD are no longer regarded by ICD-11 as part of the Anxiety disorders category, they have been listed separately as examples of CPPs – using ICD-11’s terminology –as “Obsessive-Compulsive and Related Disorders” and “Posttraumatic Stress Disorders”. (iv) The examples of Anxiety disorders listed under Type II CPPs are now the ICD-11-recognised ones of “Panic disorder” and “Specific phobias”. (v) In the same section, the term “Eating disorders” has been replaced with ICD-11’s category of “Feeding or eating disorders”.
disorders”. (vi) ICD-11’s category of “Gambling disorder” has also been added to this list. (vii) And ICD-11’s “Sleep-wake disorders” has been added to the ‘Type III Psychopathological problems’ section, to correspond to Type II’s “Sleep problems”. These further additions are in response to Dr Bach’s encouragement to “consult the now approved ICD-11 guidelines and use the same wordings.”

I have been pleased to make these changes, which have in general been updates due to recent developments.