

International Union
of Psychological Science

Established in 1889



PSYCHOLOGY'S GLOBAL VOICE

ICD-11: IUPsyS/WHO CLASSIFICATION OF MENTAL DISORDERS

Brigitte Khoury, PhD

President Elect

International Union of Psychological
Science

www.iupsys.net



WHO and health classification: International Classification of Diseases-11

- Core constitutional responsibilities of WHO include **development and maintenance of international classifications for health**; standardization of diagnostic procedures
- Free and open resource to advance public good
- For: 1) countries; and 2) front-line service providers
- Global, multidisciplinary, multilingual development
- Approved by World Health Assembly
- Covers all health conditions



THE NEED FOR SCIENCE ADVICE

- ICD-11 is evidence based v/s expert based in past revisions, last one 30 years ago.
- Development of chapter on Mental Behavioral and Neurodevelopmental Disorders was based on the principles of **clinical utility** and **global applicability**
- **16 international field study centers**



HOW WAS THE SCIENCE APPLIED?

- ICD-11 was committed to **rigorous review of the evidence** as well as **empirical work** to further advance nosological science
- Global Clinical Practice Network: 15,000+ clinicians worldwide, highly representative
- Internet based studies
- Clinically based field studies
- 14 international working groups for each diagnosis + advisory board



CHALLENGES

- Working with **complex organizations** like WHO: political framework, administrative bureaucracy etc...
- **Funding:** Most of the work was done pro bono by experts. IUPSIS raised US\$2million to fund the science and leadership and coordination. Other resources helped (BPS, WHO centers).
- **Time:** took 10 years to complete, was approved by WHO world health assembly in 2019
- **COVID-19** pandemic caused some delays



LESSONS

- Importance of having the right leadership in such a project (Dr. Geoff Reed, a psychologist and international expert)
- Main representative for psychology appointed by IUPSYs (Dr. Pierre Ritchie) to address the organizational complexities of WHO
- Importance of large scale international collaboration
- Learn the particularities of countries, cultures, health systems and clinicians
- Hundreds of publications and.....



A publication of the American Psychological Association
in partnership with the International Union of Psychological Science



A Psychological Approach to Diagnosis

Using the ICD-11 as a Framework

Editors

Geoffrey M. Reed
Pierre L.-J. Ritchie
Andreas Maercker

Associate Editor

Tahlia J. Rebello



AMERICAN
PSYCHOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION





THANK YOU