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## Development and initial cross-cultural validation of the Confucian orientation beliefs scale

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A series of cross-cultural studies were conducted to develop and validate a cultural measure, Confucian Orientation Beliefs (COB) scale. The original 66-item acculturation scale was constructed among Chinese-American immigrants residing in greater Chicago area (n=211) with specific aim to assess a broad range of traditional Chinese beliefs. Through examinations of content validity, internal consistency ( $\alpha=0.86$ ) and an inter-item correlation of 0.27 ( $p<0.001$ ), the initial Exploratory Factor Analysis (EFA) suggested 3 principal components familialism ( $\alpha=0.84$ ), male and physician paternalism ( $\alpha=0.82$ ) and death taboos ( $\alpha=0.89$ ). CO among overseas Chinese was found highly positive correlated with American acculturation, attitudes towards life-sustaining treatment and palliative care usage. A following Confirmatory Factor Analysis (CFA) was supportive with a goodness of fit of 0.95 in a relatively smaller Taiwan suburban sample (n=122). Further EFA and CFA among hospitalized patients from various Taiwan areas (n=508) yielded a slightly different structure male paternalism, filial piety and death taboo jointly captured a salient cultural factor ( $\alpha=0.83$ ), a single dimension was revealed as an individual's propensity to conform to Confucian traditions and this orientation is specifically related to life-sustaining treatment attitudes (AVE=55.39, AGFI=0.966,  $p=0.009$ ). A data-driven and efficient tool, the 6-item COB scale (short form), was created with strong psychometric properties. While CO remains prominent in modern Chinese-ethnic societies to affect family caregivers' life-sustaining treatment decision-making, future research is necessary to replicate studies for temporal stability across heterogeneous Chinese-speaking and Confucianism-oriented samples.

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