

Symposium | Suicide prevention : [Symposium 18] Concept of death and culture

Thu. Sep 25, 2025 4:25 PM - 5:55 PM JST | Thu. Sep 25, 2025 7:25 AM - 8:55 AM UTC  Session Room 5  
(Conference Room A)

## [Symposium 18] Concept of death and culture

Moderator: Sergio Javier Villaseñor-Bayardo (Universidad de Guadalajara), Saima Niaz (Transcultural Psychiatry Special Interest Group of the Royal College of Psychiatrists, UK.)

### [SY-18-01] Living with the dead: Prolonged grief disorder and the Japanese concept of death

\*Kanako Shimizu<sup>1,2</sup> (1. Rokubancho Mental Clinic, Japan depression center (Japan), 2. Jichi Medical University, Department of Psychiatry (Japan))

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What happens when we die? This is a question that we can never definitively answer. The concepts of Heaven and Hell can only be imagined and not understood. Death concepts influence how we think about the deceased. Although these concepts are partly shared, they differ from culture to culture, much like myths. These imaginary stories deeply affect the human psyche.

In this presentation, we will share a clinical case of a patient suffering from Prolonged Grief Disorder (PGD) in Japan. Following this case, we will discuss the Japanese concept of death, focusing on the relationship between the living and the dead, and the emotional expressions of the bereaved.