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SEVEN BASIC DOMAINS OF DISGUST: THE MULTIDIMENSIONAL DISGUST SCALE

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Disgust is a basic emotion elicited in response to a diversity of objects and situations which suggest that possible different functional domains exist. However, to data there is not a consensus about the domains of disgust to be assessed. A second main problem is that all self-report scales have been developed in the Anglo-Saxon culture. The Multidimensional Disgust Scale (MDS) is a new disgust self-report measure based in a Spanish-speaking population. The aim of this study was to examine the structure of the MDS and its relationship to other known measures of disgust. The MDS is a 30-item measure that assesses the level of disgust related to potentially disgusting objects or situations. Confirmatory factor analyses suggested a five-factor structure, which matches to the 5 proposed dimensions of disgust, i.e., hygiene (body products), moral, sexual, body transgression, small-animals, atypical food, and disease; alternative structures were not supported by the data. Reliability and correlations among the seven subscales were also reported. Finally, we found convergent and discriminant correlations between the MDS domains and other disgust scales, including the Disgust Scale—Revised (Haidt et al., 2007), the Disgust Propensity and Sensitivity Scale (van Overvel et al., 2006) and the Three-Domain Disgust Scale (Tybur et al., 2009). Findings suggest that the MDS is a new promising measure of disgust.

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