

Review of: "Are Pain and Mourning for a Pet and a Family Member the Same?"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

I enjoyed reading this article as it addresses a meaningful topic for all who have owned and loved pets.

I note the extensive work that the author has done and the PRISM methods that the author has used for this study. I would encourage Mr. Mariano to take Appendix 3 and use it as his results rather than put it at the end of the paper. After this, he can summarize the recurring themes. This is what a meta-analysis would do.

I also feel that an analysis of the fields in which the articles have been published would be of interest. They seem to come from a variety of research fields that touch upon the issues of pets, grief, loss, and love. This too could be part of the results section.

You have a lot of information to summarize, and tables do it the best. So in your discussion, rather than trying to summarize the tables, pull out the key themes that repeated and discuss these in more detail rather than list all the themes with a reference.

In your conclusion, you have a paragraph about the development of a scale for measuring grief after a pet. This would be better in your discussion, where further research needed is usually discussed.

I have made some comments in the paper where I was confused about what you meant in a word or sentence, and I have attached that file.