## "ICD-11 Includes Parental Alienation Numerous, members of PASG helped bring about this recognition.

By William Bernet, M.D., President, Parental Alienation Study Group

FOR THE FIRST TIME, the term "parental alienation" is included in the new edition of the International Classification of Diseases (ICD-11). Parental alienation is not a separate diagnosis in ICD-11, but is considered a synonym or an index term for a specific diagnosis, that is, caregiver-child relationship problem (QE52.0). The final version of ICD-11 is freely available on the Internet at https://icd.who.int/. Go to that link and then to "ICD Browser." You can easily search for "parental alienation" and "parental estrangement." Both terms are recognized because they are in the Index of the three-volume set of ICD-11. Both terms take the reader to the diagnosis of caregiver-child relationship problem. That is what ICD personnel have been telling us for more than a year, that is, that alienation and estrangement are considered "index terms" for caregiver-child relationship problem. We knew all along that parental alienation would not be a separate diagnosis, but was considered an alternative term for caregiver-child relationship problem. If you ask me, I think it is correct to say, "Parental alienation is in ICD-11." Also, "PA is considered another name for caregiver-child relationship problem." Also, "ICD-11 recognizes the reality of PA," and so on."