

agonists, amantadine can be used. Other approaches such as correction of vitamin deficiencies and remdesivir can also play a role.

Conclusions: Delirium remains frequently unrecognized. In the pandemic context of COVID-19 it is important to consider this infection as a cause of delirium and mind the misdiagnosis as a psychiatric condition. One should look for atypical features and be more thoughtful about the psychopharmacological approach.

Keywords: delirium; Psychopharmacology; COVID-19; neurological disorders

EPP0341

Reduced activity in a liaison psychiatry service during the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic: Comparison with 2019 data and characterisation of the SARS-CoV-2 positive cohort

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doi: 10.1192/j.eurpsy.2021.735

Introduction: The COVID-19 pandemic led to changes in how healthcare was accessed and delivered. It was suggested that COVID-19 will lead to an increased delirium burden in its acute phase, with variable effect on mental health in the longer term. Despite this, there are limited data on the direct effects of the pandemic on psychiatric care.

Objectives: 1) describe the mental health presentations of a diverse acute inpatient population, 2) compare findings with the same period in 2019, 3) characterise the SARS-CoV-2 positive cohort of patients.

Methods: We present a descriptive summary of the referrals to a UK psychiatric liaison department during the exponential phase of the pandemic, and compare this to the same period in 2019.

Results: show a 40.3% reduction in the number of referrals in 2020, with an increase in the proportion of referrals for delirium and psychosis. One third (28%) of referred patients tested positive for COVID-19 during their admission, with 39.7% of these presenting with delirium as a consequence of their COVID-19 illness. Our data indicate decreased clinical activity for our service during the pandemic's peak. There was a marked increase in delirium, though in no other psychiatric presentations.

Conclusions: In preparation for further exponential rises in COVID-19 cases, we would expect seamless integration of liaison psychiatry teams in general hospital wards to optimise delirium management in patients with COVID-19. Further consideration should be given to adequate staffing of community and crisis mental health teams to safely manage the potentially increasing number of people reluctant to visit the emergency department.

Keywords: liaison psychiatry; Covid; pandemic

EPP0342

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on paramedics' mental health in Greece.

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doi: 10.1192/j.eurpsy.2021.736

Introduction: Converging evidence substantiates a negative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the mental health of frontline workers. Nonetheless, there is paucity of research on paramedics.

Objectives: To estimate the prevalence of stress, anxiety and depression in frontline paramedics in the Athens region, Greece, and to investigate the coping skills that are associated with less favourable mental health outcomes

Methods: A total of 100 ambulance paramedics participated in the study. The online questionnaire encompassed the DASS-21 for assessing mental health outcomes and the Brief-COPE for measuring coping skills. Information about socio-demographic characteristics and personal/relatives' vulnerability to COVID-19 was also gleaned.

Results: The prevalence for moderate to severe cases was found to be 7.2% for stress, 9.4% for anxiety and 11.3% for depression. Multiple linear regression analysis indicated that men demonstrated significantly higher stress [$B = -2.28$, 95%CI = $-3.88 - -0.68$] and depression compared to women [$B = -1.69$, 95%CI = $-3.19 - -0.19$]. Similarly, the use of denial was found to be associated with higher stress [$B = 0.69$, 95%CI = $0.11 - 1.37$] and anxiety [$B = 0.55$, 95%CI = $0.13 - 0.98$]. Moreover, emotional support was linked to heightened anxiety [$B = 0.71$, 95%CI = $0.36 - 1.06$] and self-distraction to depression [$B = 0.60$, 95%CI = $0.16 - 1.04$]. Personal or relatives' vulnerability to COVID-19 did not impinge on mental health outcomes.

Conclusions: Healthcare initiatives should be tailored at the mental health needs of frontline paramedics, especially men. Psychosocial interventions should target maladaptive coping, especially the use of denial.

Keywords: coronavirus; frontline workers; common mental disorders; coping skills

EPP0343

Children's mental health hospital throughout COVID-19

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doi: 10.1192/j.eurpsy.2021.737

Introduction: Children with mental health issues are heavily dependent upon the attitude of their caregivers towards disease control and prevention. There is also a high risk of COVID-19 outbreaks in the mental health clinics (hospitals) for children.

Objectives: Children with mental health issues are heavily dependent upon the attitude of their caregivers towards disease control and prevention. There is also a high risk of COVID-19 outbreaks in the mental health clinics (hospitals) for children.

Methods: The data from the Municipal Department of Health and Medical records of patients who were treated at the clinic from January to June in 2019 were compared. Statistical processing was carried out using the Chi-Square for 2 x 2 Contingency Table method.

Results: The study demonstrated the statistically significant difference in the types of mental health conditions that require more attention and in-patient emergency treatment options during the pandemic, including decompensation, exacerbation or manifestation of endogenous diseases, anorexia nervosa and suicidal manifestations. To prevent the spread of infection, a specific separate clinical unit was created for patients with severe mental health disorders and symptoms of COVID-19. Additionally, multiple changes were implemented in treatment protocols, staff duties and interactions with the patients' caregivers.

Conclusions: There was a higher demand for in-patient emergency treatment for children with severe mental health disorders in 2020, as compared to 2019. Timely introduced anti-epidemic measures made it possible to avoid outbreaks of COVID-19 in the children's psychiatric hospital.

Keywords: epidemiology; Child Psychiatry; mental health clinic; psychiatric unit

EPP0344

COVID-19: Studying dissociative experiences in a confined sample of tunisian people

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doi: 10.1192/j.eurpsy.2021.738

Introduction: Dissociative experiences have been studied in different circumstances.

Objectives: In this study we aim to analyze dissociative phenomena under a stress factor: lockdown.

Methods: We conducted a cross sectional-study, using an online survey, spread during lockdown period in Tunisia, between the 2nd and the 8th of April. It was comprised of sociodemographic, geographic, medical history, confinement status and DES-II questionnaire in its french version. Age superior than 18 was the only inclusion criteria and the no respect of lockdown was the exclusion criteria. Based on former studies on DES-II, 3 sub scores have been assessed; amnesia (measures memory loss), depersonalization (sense of unreality of the self) and absorption (the absorption has to do with one's traumatic experiences).

Results: We recruited 167 individuals; 100 women and 67 men. The most common age class was 20 to 30 years old (60.5% of the

sample). The Mean total score was 11.06 which was higher than mentioned in earlier studies. The mean score was 15.11 for absorption; 5.28 for amnesia and 6.88 for depersonalization subscale. Significant differences in scores were found based on different variables. Women had higher absorption score ($p=0.011$). Besides people living in COVID-19 clusters had lower total score ($p=0.038$). Finally, people with somatic medical history showed higher total score ($p=0.013$), absorption score ($p=0.003$) and depersonalization score ($p=0.012$) compared to those with none.

Conclusions: During lockdown, dissociative experiences showed to be more frequent. But does this mean that a resurgence in PTSD (posttraumatic stress disorder) or ASD (acute stress disorder) in the months to come.

Keywords: COVID-19; dissociative experiences; confinement; DES-II

EPP0345

Impact of the COVID-19 virus and confinement on the mental health of the tunisian population: Anxiety and depression

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doi: 10.1192/j.eurpsy.2021.739

Introduction: The 2019 Coronavirus disease epidemic is a public health emergency of international concern and poses a challenge to psychological resilience.

Objectives: To study the psychological repercussions in terms of anxiety and depression of the Coronavirus pandemic on the Tunisian population.

Methods: This was a cross-sectional, descriptive and analytical study. We used an online questionnaire on Facebook, on June 2020. The heteroquestionnaire included epidemiological data and two scales: the State-Trait Anxiety Inventory (STAI Form Y-1) to evaluate the anxiety level at the time of the study, and the Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ 9) to detect a characterized depressive episode.

Results: We included 121 participants. They had an average age of 36.52 years with a sex ratio (M/F) of 0.41. The mean STAI score was 43.12 while the PHQ score was 7.46, indicating that 30.8% of the participants suffered from depression. Both scores were correlated to female sex ($p=0.01$ for STAI and $p=0.02$ for PHQ), a history of anxiety ($p<0.001$) and depressive disorders ($p<0.001$) and to poor sleep quality ($p<0.001$). The STAI score was also associated with a family history of high blood pressure ($p=0.004$), while the PHQ score was correlated to a family history of diabetes ($p=0.02$), a widowed or divorced marital status ($p<0.001$) and to a single lifestyle ($p=0.03$). Furthermore, the two scores (STAI-Y and PHQ 9) were also associated ($p<0.001$; $r=0.67$).

Conclusions: The psychological impact of Coronavirus epidemic seems not negligible requiring psychological interventions to improve the mental health of vulnerable groups.

Keywords: COVID-19; Anxiety; Depression; mental health