

the period following the disclosure of the diagnosis. The combination of psychological stress and the chronic nature of the disease contributes to significant sleep disturbances. Understanding the prevalence, causes, and implications of these disorders is crucial for improving patient care.

Objectives: The aim of this study is to evaluate the prevalence and characteristics of sleep disorders in MS patients following the announcement of the diagnosis and to explore the contributing factors, including psychological and physical symptoms.

Methods: A descriptive and analytical cross-sectional study was conducted from March 1, 2023, to January 30, 2024, involving patients diagnosed with multiple sclerosis (MS) who were observed in the neurology department at Habib Bourguiba University Hospital in Sfax. We evaluated sleep disorders using the **insomnia severity index scale** which included 7 items to investigate sleep disturbance.

Results: A total of 100 patients, with a mean age of 38 years \pm 10 years, were included, with a strong majority of women (73%). No psychiatric history was noted. The median disease duration was 7.38 years (3-10.75). Among our patients, 64(64%) had attained a university level of education. In addition, 40(40%) were married, and 60 (60%) were single, divorced, or widowed.

The median Insomnia Severity Index was 5 (1-10.75). More than half of our patients (62%) did not suffer from insomnia. However, 9% had a mild subclinical form of insomnia, 10% had moderate clinical insomnia, and 19% suffered from severe clinical insomnia. Primary education level was correlated significantly with mild sleep disorders $n=33.3$ (33.3%), ($p=0.044$). On the other hand, those with a higher education level showed a lower prevalence of mild sleep disorders $n=22.2$ (22.2%) ($p=0.01$). However, a lower prevalence of severe sleep disorders was noted among married individuals (10.5% $p=0.004$), while a higher frequency was observed in divorced individuals (15.8%, $p=0$). Only refusal of the diagnosis upon its initial announcement was significantly associated with severe sleep disorders (63.2%, $p=0.012$).

Conclusions: Addressing sleep disorders in MS patients requires a holistic approach that incorporates both psychological and symptom management strategies. Early interventions targeting anxiety, depression, and physical discomfort are essential for improving sleep quality and overall well-being in this patient population. Further research is needed to develop tailored therapeutic approaches that address the unique challenges faced by MS patient's post-diagnosis.

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared

EPP259

Relationship between sleep disorders and impairments in the language development process in cases of ASD

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doi: 10.1192/j.eurpsy.2025.569

Introduction: Autism Spectrum Disorder is characterized by persistent deficits in communication and social interaction in multiple contexts, including deficits in social reciprocity, in nonverbal communication behaviors used for social interaction and in skills to develop, maintain and understand relationships, in addition to repetitive patterns of activity. Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) present a wide variety of cognitive profiles, with

levels of symptom severity that differ between those with the same diagnosis. In language development, there are individual differences, both in the acquisition process and in speed and quality. Sleep is an important parameter for child development and its relevance has been associated with healthy physical, cognitive and behavioral development, as well as cognitive functions in children and adolescents. Researchers estimate that between 40% and 80% of children with ASD have sleep disorders.

Objectives: To relate sleep disorders frequently present in cases of ASD to delays in language development in children with ASD.

Methods: The research was approved by the USP ethics committee. To investigate sleep disorders, the Cognitive Speech Therapy Protocol aimed at ASD was used, an accessible and understandable instrument for parents or guardians. To identify language disorders, the ADL2 Language Development Assessment was used. 40 parents and/or guardians of children with ASD, aged between 2 and 12 years, participated in the research. A logistic regression analysis was performed to evaluate the relationship between sleep disturbances and language delay in children with ASD. The sample included 32 children, 28 of whom reported sleep disorders and all of whom had language delays

Results: The results showed that children with sleep disorders are 2.3 times more likely to have delays in receptive and/or expressive language compared to those without sleep disorders. This association is statistically significant, indicating that sleep disorders are a relevant risk factor for language delays in children with ASD.

Conclusions: Sleep disorders can impact the development of expressive language in several ways, such as by reducing the time available for language and interaction practices or by direct effects on cognitive and neurological processes. Therefore, sleep quality should be considered an important factor to be addressed to improve both receptive and expressive language in children with ASD. Therefore, sleep quality should be considered an important factor to be addressed to improve both receptive and expressive language in children with ASD.

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared

Suicidology and Suicide Prevention

EPV1940

Epidemiology of patients with suicidal intent in the emergency department at the University Hospital of Salamanca

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doi: 10.1192/j.eurpsy.2025.2345

Introduction: Suicide represents a serious public health problem. Suicidal gestures make up a significant proportion of the psychiatric emergencies treated in Emergency Services.

Objectives: The study aimed to identify which of the total emergency visits were related to suicidal ideation or suicide attempts, and to analyze the epidemiology of these patients in terms of age and gender.