

W0044

“Flexible Assertive Community Mental Health Teams for the Treatment of Psychosis in Extraordinary Circumstances during Pandemics and Earthquakes 2020/2021: are we Flexible Enough?”

M. Rojnic Kuzman^{1*}, S. Medved², S. Bjedov², M. Kovac³ and A. Mihaljevic-Peles²

¹University Hospital Center Zagreb, University of Zagreb, Department Of Psychiatry, Zagreb School Of Medicine, Zagreb, Croatia; ²University Hospital Center Zagreb, Department Of Psychiatry And Psychological Medicine, Zagreb, Croatia and ³Neuropsychiatric hospital Dr. Ivan Barbot, Psychiatry, Popovaca, Croatia

*Corresponding author.

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During the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, two regions in Croatia, Zagreb and Petrinja in the Sisak-Moslavina County experienced strong earthquakes, on the March 22nd 2020 and on the 29th of December 2020. Both earthquakes, but especially the later one resulted on severe damage of the regions and caused severe disruptions in (mental) health service delivery. In these circumstances, the RECOVER-E project (LaRge-scale implementation of COmmunity based mental health care for people with seVere and Enduring mental ill health in EuRopE), which was ongoing in Croatia from 2018-2022 aimed to implement flexible assertive community treatment as the new health care service for persons with severe mental illness (SMI). Since the pandemic and earthquakes have significantly influenced the life circumstances of all RECOVER-E project participants with SMI, we wanted further to examine the impact of health care delivery on mental health and the response to stress caused by a pandemic and earthquake in the patients with SMI involved in the project, in the first and second wave of the COVID-19 pandemics. Additionally, using case series, we will demonstrate the community mental health teams' contributions in managing SMI after a double disaster in providing feasible, comprehensive, and accessible mental health services.¹

Disclosure: No significant relationships.

Keywords: Covid-19 pandemic; earthquake; Mental health services; community mental health teams

Early Intervention Through Real World Experiences: Feedback, Challenges and Opportunities

W0043

“Contemporary Treatment in Multi-Professional Team of Acute Psychosis- Pros and Cons”

J. Jaudzema

Riga Centre of Psychiatry and addiction disorders, Psychiatry, Riga, Latvia

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The approach of a multi-professional team in the treatment of acute psychosis was started in 2018/2019 In Latvia, within the framework of the early intervention program. Until then, the patient was mostly examined and treated with medication in the inpatient

phase of acute psychosis. After discharge, further treatment and rehabilitation in Latvia is still relatively limited and largely based on the initiative of the patient and relatives. Within the multi-professional team of the inpatient department of the Riga Psychiatry and Narcology Center, a psychiatrist, mental health nurses, nursing assistants, psychologists, occupational therapists, a physiotherapist, a visual arts and dance - movement therapist, as well as a social worker work together. The benefits of teamwork in the treatment of acute psychosis are undeniable, but during these few years, working in challenging conditions, various disadvantages have crystallized. Among the 'pros' is a more successful, multifaceted outcome of recovery, better patient compliance and reduction of stigma among patients and their relatives (and thus in society as a whole). 'Cons' are mainly due to limited availability of resources, from limited funding and infrastructure to a lack of professionals and time. It should also be noted that mental health literacy is still low in Latvian society, which means that patients often arrive late for help, which means that it is not possible to achieve good results in a limited time within the hospital. For these reasons, treatment is often discontinued after discharge, which increases the risk of rehospitalisation and adverse course of the disease.

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Keywords: psychiatry; early intervention; acute psychosis; Multi-Professional Team

European

Medical Students Perspectives on Mental Health: Reports from Medical Schools across Europe

W0044

Taking Mental Health into Schools: The work of Headucate Student Society

N. Henderson*, V. Selwyn, R. Howard and I. Bartolome

University of East Anglia, Norwich Medical School, Norwich, United Kingdom

*Corresponding author.

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Headucate: University of East Anglia (UEA) is a student-led organisation aiming to raise awareness around Mental Health through their workshops and events. Events in the last year have included a 24-hour live stream TV fundraiser, UEA's first Psychiatry and Mental Health conference, a mental health themed stand-up show, mental health assistance workshops, a suicide prevention evening and a variety of panels. Headucate has also collaborated with Beat, the UK's leading eating disorder charity, to run training aimed at Norwich Medical School students, other healthcare students and Professionals. Headucate provides opportunities for their members, including research, education within the medical community, organising group projects, hosting poster competitions and by collaborating with likeminded initiatives. Workshops were designed to include common mental health conditions; wellbeing; advice regarding looking after yourself and others; ways to get for support and the impact of COVID-19 on our mental health. They are arranged and delivered by our members to school children and university students; they have been adapted to an online platform,