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Research

specific management guidelines for these patients within this population.

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AI in Psychiatry: Obstacles and Opportunities

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Aims: This study aims to evaluate the attitudes of resident doctors toward the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in clinical psychiatric practice. As AI technology continues to advance, its potential to support patient care is becoming increasingly significant, and understanding the perspectives of resident doctors provides crucial insights into how AI can be integrated effectively into psychiatric practice.

Methods: An anonymised online survey was sent to resident and speciality doctors of different grades to elicit their views on the use of AI in psychiatric practice. The survey consisted of Likert scale and multiple-choice questions relating to attitudes towards AI and perceived barriers to its clinical use. Participants were also invited to share their thoughts in a free-text question at the end of the survey. Results: 41 resident doctors replied to the survey. 83% of responders had used AI personally, 78% of whom had used ChatGPT. There was clear consensus that AI could help with written tasks, with 85% of doctors reporting that they felt AI could help with summarising notes, and 78% indicating that it could support writing clinical letters. Only 34% of responders felt that AI could help with more complex generative tasks, such as guiding risk assessment, suggesting treatment options or interpreting investigation results.

There were evident barriers to the adoption of AI with lack of trust in the accuracy/reliability of the information produced (82%) and concerns about possible bias in the algorithms/data used by AI (84%). Legal (71%) and ethical concerns (67%) were also widely reported as barriers to its adoption.

Attitudes to using AI initially varied, with 29% of doctors reporting that they were "very unlikely" or "unlikely" to use AI in their clinical practice. After engaging with the concepts presented in the survey, attitudes demonstratably shifted with this figure dropping to 20%.

Conclusion: This study demonstrates the diversity of opinion surrounding the use of AI among resident doctors in psychiatry. The majority of respondents agreed that AI would be of use in administrative tasks, but felt that the main barriers to its use included concerns about the accuracy of the generated information, and ethicolegal considerations, particularly related to information governance.

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Investigating the Symptom Presentation of Depression in Children with ADHD

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Aims: ADHD is commonly comorbid with depression and this comorbidity is associated with increased symptom severity and worse outcomes than either condition alone. Depression is highly heterogeneous and may present differently in populations with ADHD. This study aimed to explore different symptom presentations of depression and associated clinical correlates in a clinical ADHD sample.

Methods: We analysed data from the Study of ADHD Genes and Environment (SAGE). Parents completed semi-structured questionnaires about their child's psychopathology at baseline (mean age 10.9 years) and the Mood and Feelings Questionnaire to capture their child's depression symptoms approximately 5 years later (mean age = 14.6 years, N=249). Depression symptom presentations were derived by latent profile analysis.

Results: Analyses found three presentations of depression symptoms: a 'low symptoms' (48.5% of the sample) class, a 'high symptoms' class (15.5%) with consistently high depression symptoms, particularly for suicidality and poor self-esteem items, and an 'irritable/poor sleep' class (36.1%) with intermediate levels of depression symptoms and high scores for irritability and poor sleep. All three classes had elevated irritability and symptoms that overlap with ADHD. Behavioural problems were associated with an increased likelihood of being in the high symptoms compared with low symptoms class, and higher autism symptoms were associated with being in the intermediate 'irritable/poor sleep' compared with low class.

Conclusion: Our findings suggest that while young people with ADHD often have elevated depression symptoms, there is notable heterogeneity. Young people with ADHD and behavioural disorders may be particularly at risk of more severe depression symptom presentations characterised by high suicidal cognitions, whilst those with ADHD and autistic traits may present with more irritability and poor sleep.

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Impact of Werther Effect Exerted by Social Media on Individuals Presenting with Deliberate Self-Harm (DSH) to a Tertiary Care Hospital in Sri Lanka

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Aims: There was an exponential increase in the rates of deliberate self-harm (DSH) in Sri Lanka over the last two decades coinciding with the rise of social media. Werther effect is the phenomenon where sensationalised media reports on suicide/DSH leads to increased rates of DSH/suicide. Therefore, assessing the impact of social media on DSH and implementing media regulations are timely needs. The objectives of this study included assessing the extent of exposure and the severity of emotional disturbance incurred due to social media content depicting DSH/suicide and determining the