excluded. In the literature, only one case report with supraorbital eyelid edema [2] and one case report with hemifacial redness of the face [3] after ECT have been described so far. We evaluate the eyelid edema and erythema that occurred in our case as isolated benign complications, most likely due to autonomic activation of facial nerves due to electrical stimulation in RUL.

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared

## **EPV0860**

# Successful treatment using combined electroconvulsive therapy and oral paliperidone for clozapine-resistant schizophrenia: A case report

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**Introduction:** Clozapine is considered to be the most efficacious antipsychotic drug for treatment-resistant schizophrenia (TRS). Despite this, up to 70% of patients with TRS have a poor response to adequate treatment with clozapine. In order to overcome clozapine-resistance schizophrenia (CRS), a number of adjunctive therapies, including pharmacological and non-pharmacological options, have been attempted.

**Objectives:** The objective of this paper is to highlight the efficacy of the combined electroconvulsive therapy (ECT) and oral paliperidone as a successful treatment in clozapine nonresponders suffering from schizophrenia.

**Methods:** We present the case of a 22-year-old female, with four years psychiatric history, which was admitted to our clinic for psychotic behavior, psychomotor agitation, verbal negativism, auditory hallucinations. During hospitalization, the patient presented behavioral disorganization, auditory, visual and tactile hallucinations, ideo-verbal barriers, poorly systematized delusional ideation (of guilt, mysticism, contamination, possession), episodes of catatonic stupor, rigidity, waxy flexibility, bizarre postures, false recognitions. Corroborating evidence, we established the diagnosis of undifferentiated schizophrenia. We initiated treatment with clozapine up to 450 mg/day and amisulpride up to 600 mg/day.

**Results:** Combined treatment strategy of clozapine and amisulpride for six weeks showed no amelioration in our patient, with additional side-effects. Also, in the last four years, she had been treated with several atypical antipsychotics, which had not achieved substantial improvement. Considering that our patient did not present an adequate clinical response and the catatonic symptoms were accentuated, we decided to progressively reduce the doses of clozapine by 50 mg/day until elimination, to initiate paliperidone 12 mg/day and to conduct ECT three times a week, performing a total of six sessions. The bilateral electrode placement and brief pulse stimuli (800 mA; 8 s, 30 Hz) were applied under analgosedation, with no sustained severe adverse events. After performing ECT, the patient presented a favorable clinical evolution, with a decreasing trend until the remission of psychotic symptoms. **Conclusions:** TRS was diagnosed based on the poor response to more than two kinds of atypical antipsychotics and CRS was established after the combination of clozapine and amisulpride failed to decrease persistent positive symptoms, associated with worsening of the negative symptoms. Combined therapy with paliperidone and ECT proved to be greatly effective in improving symptoms for our patient. Switching from clozapine to a previously untried atypical might be of benefit in TRS. Also, adjunctive ECT can be efficacious in CRS. Augmentation with ECT may result in a faster response, which is particularly useful among patients with high risks of self-harm.

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared

## EPV0861

# Early career psychiatrists' attitudes towards electroconvulsive therapy: an international crosssectional survey

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**Introduction:** With a history of several decades, electroconvulsive therapy (ECT) has been carefully investigated and data supports its use as a safe and effective treatment for patients with severe depression, prolonged or severe manic episodes and catatonia. However, ECT is still regarded with reluctance by patients and caregivers, and its acceptance and use seem to be controversial even for psychiatrists.

**Objectives:** To investigate the access to opportunities of training in ECT among early career psychiatrists and their views regarding the place of ECT in modern psychiatry.

**Methods:** A cross-sectional study was conducted between July and December 2022 utilizing an anonymous online survey consisting of 36 multiple-choice and Likert scale questions.

**Results:** These preliminary findings show a great discrepancy regarding the availability of ECT training in European countries, as access to specialized ECT centers is unavailable in some areas. Early career psychiatrists who had access to ECT training are more knowledgeable about the indications, precautions and side effects of this method. Most of our respondents consider ECT both an

effective and a safe treatment option and have expressed their wish to improve their theoretical and practical competencies in ECT.

**Conclusions:** ECT is a standard treatment and a therapeutic mainstay in psychiatry but is being less performed in some countries. Early career psychiatrists lack experience with ECT but are interested in training opportunities. Future actions are needed for the improvement of education and training in ECT.

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared

#### **EPV0862**

# Transcranial magnetic stimulation for catatonia: case series

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**Introduction:** Catatonia is diagnosed in 5–43% of patients with various mental disorders, thus actualizing the problem of elaborating therapeutic interventions for catatonia on an outpatient basis. Although the current experience in application of transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS) in catatonia is limited, it provides promising data on positive effect of dorsolateral prefrontal cortex (DLPFC) stimulation in a series of clinical observations. According to the available data, TMS shows comparable efficacy with electroconvulsive therapy, but unlike it is safe and does not require general anesthesia in intensive care unit.

**Objectives:** to evaluate the efficacy and safety of TMS in the treatment of catatonia in patients with mental disorders

**Methods:** Four patients were diagnosed with catatonia as part of schizophrenia spectrum disorders in three cases (P1,4,7) and in one case within the structure of recurrent depression phase (P8). Psychopathological examination includes PANSS, SAS, NSA-4, BFCRS, NCRS, and BACS.

Personalized choice of stimulation protocol was determined by rCBF lateralization in DLPFC reflecting the neuronal activity in that region: 1) P1, P4, and P8 underwent 20 sessions of high-frequency stimulation at the frequency of 20 Hz with the amplitude of 120% MT in the projection of left DLPFC 2) P7 underwent 20 sessions of low-frequency stimulation at the frequency of 1 Hz with the amplitude of 120% MT in the projection of right DLPFC **Results:** Safety evaluation was performed daily during TMS sessions. None of participants reported any adverse events at high compliance.

The efficacy was estimated during by the following criteria: 1) positive clinical response: decline of BFCRS and NCRS scores by 70% from the primary evaluation 2) achievement symptomatic remission (total BFCRS and NCRS score 3 and less).

Positive clinical response was detected in all four patients, however, symptomatic remission was formed only in two of them (P1 and P4) referring to BFCRS.

Evaluation of neurotransmitter concentration: P1, P7, P8 showed a tendency for absolute and relative glutamate concentration values to approach normal. After the TMS course GABA concentration

diminished in all cases but P4, in whom the elevation of GABA level was registered.

**Conclusions:** TMS potentially activates metabolic processes in brain tissues, thus promoting deceleration of pathological mechanisms and potentiating neuroplasticity with procognitive effect, expressed primarily in the increase of processing speed and response to it, as well as in the improvement of working memory. To summarize, the influence of TMS on local brain regions makes it possible to achieve a positive clinical effect in treatment of catatonia.

No strong and unequivocal results were received for the efficacy of TMS in treatment of catatonia. A positive clinical effect was seen, however, insufficient for achieving remission in the majority of subjects.

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared

## EPV0863

## The Application of Deep Brain Stimulation for Treatment-Resistant Depression – A Narrative Review

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**Introduction:** Depression continues to be a leading cause of disability worldwide. Despite the availability of several classes of antidepressants, a third of patients do not recover from their depression. Deep brain stimulation (DBS) is an invasive treatment approach that was found to be effective in the treatment of Parkinson's Disease and presents as an alternative to standard antidepressant therapy for people with treatment-resistent depression (TRD). **Objectives:** We aimed to compare the use of DBS to standard antidepressant therapy and decipher whether DBS can be used for TRD. In addition, electroconvulsive therapy (ECT), a current brain stimulation method administered for TRD, was contrasted with DBS.

**Methods:** A narrative review of the current literature concerning DBS application and TRD was conducted to evaluate whether standard antidepressant therapy was as effective as psychosurgical intervention. Emphasis on TRD-associated DBS was noted.

**Results:** The studies discussed found that DBS was an effective treatment option for TRD, however, the results were limited due to the studies being conducted in small sample sizes and using DBS in combination with antidepressant therapy. Nonetheless, the concomitant use of DBS and antidepressants demonstrated to be an effective treatment for TRD, highlighting the potential benefit of DBS in inducing remission in TRD. DBS has a wider range of complications compared to ECT as it involves a more invasive neurosurgical approach to implant the device. On comparing the cost of the devices between the 2 studies, DBS costs approximately three times more than ECT.

**Conclusions:** The spectrum of depressive disorders is known to affect multiple regions of the brain. A more cohesive approach