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**Introduction:** Excessive alcohol consumption is a known risk factor for various mental health disorders and can exacerbate the already high burden of COVID-19 pandemic on mental health.On the other hand, the COVID-19 pandemic itself can adversely affect alcohol consumption and thus contribute to alcohol-related problems, including mental health problems.

**Objectives:** This study was aimed to assess changes in alcohol consumption that may have occurred as a result of the COVID-19pandemic and determine associated factors among population of Russian Federation.

Methods: By distributing a link to take part in an anonymous online survey, changes in volume and frequency of alcohol use, and frequency of heavy episodic drinking (6 or more servings of alcohol at a time) in the first months of COVID-19 pandemic were assessed. 819 respondents from Russia: 321 men and 498 women, submitted their responses during May-July, 2020. Associations between changes in alcohol use were assessed in a univariate analysis with socio-demographic factors, alcohol use over the previous 12 months, stress, individual perceptions of changes in daily and social life and other negative consequences of pandemic. The statistical significance of associations was assessed using the Pearson's x2 test.

**Results:** Individuals with initially higher alcohol consumption increased their alcohol use, while those who drank less, decreased alcohol use even more during pandemic (p<0.05). Severe restrictions of social/everyday life were associated with more frequent alcohol use and in larger volumes (p<0.001). Negative professional/financial consequences of pandemic and stress were associated with increase of typical drinking volume (p<0.001), more frequent alcohol use (p<0.001) and heavy episodic drinking (p<0.05).

**Conclusions:** The COVID-19 pandemic could have increased health inequalities in Russia through changes in alcohol consumption.

**Disclosure:** No significant relationships.

Keywords: Russia; alcohol; Covid-19; alcohol consumption

#### **EPV0395**

# **Emerging Catatonia and Psychosis in Resolving COVID-19 Infection in an Adolescent**

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**Introduction:** COVID-19 infection may lead to encephalopathy and various neurotrophic effects which can result in neuropsychiatric complications. Here, an asymptomatic adolescent female developed acute onset catatonia and psychosis manifesting during the resolution of Covid-19 infection.

**Objectives:** Discuss differential diagnosis, medical workup, and initial treatment optimization for acute stabilization.

Methods: This 15-year-old female with no previous psychiatric history nor prodromal symptomatology was hospitalized secondary to Covid -19. During the immediate three-month recovery phase following resolution of Covid-19, the patient exhibited gradually increasing anxiety, paranoia, delusions, disorganized behavior, and weight loss leading to re-hospitalization secondary to catatonia. Negative workup included rapid strep test, urinalysis, chest and abdominal x-ray, EEG, and brain MRI. Lumbar puncture revealed elevated WBC of 18 but was unremarkable for NDMA receptor antibodies, CSF HSV, and encephalitis panel. IV steroids, IVIG, and Anakinra were all given without benefit. Inadequate response to olanzapine, clonidine, and lorazepam led to an Index Series of bilateral electroconvulsive therapy (ECT).

**Results:** The provisional diagnosis of psychotic disorder secondary to COVID-19 infection responded robustly regarding sleep, behavior, and affect by session #6, yet positive symptoms of psychosis persist. Ongoing ECT, psychopharmacology, and narrowing of the differential diagnosis continue.

**Conclusions:** As more COVID-19 cases evolve during the pandemic, potential post-infectious neuropsychiatric complications should be considered as potentially contributory and kept in a thoughtful differential diagnosis. Regardless of ultimate causation, the acute symptom profile responded robustly to an initial Index Series of ECT.

**Disclosure:** No significant relationships. **Keywords:** Covid-19; Psychosis; ECT; Catatonia

#### **EPV0396**

# **COVID-19 Pandemic: Another Source of Stress for Medical Students**

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**Introduction:** The COVID-19 pandemic has completely changed the experience of higher education with potentially negative consequences for students' wellbeing.

**Objectives:** To compare medicine/dentistry students' depression/ anxiety/stress levels before versus during the pandemic and to analyse the role of COVID-19-related stressors in their psychological distress.

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**Methods:** Students from the Faculty of Medicine University of Coimbra answered socio-demographic and personality questionnaires and the Depression, Anxiety and Stress Scale/DASS before (academic years 2016-2017-2018-2019 - SAMPLE1; n=1000) and during (September-December 2020 and January-March 2021 - SAMPLE2; n=650) the COVID-19 pandemic. Mean age (21.12±3.75), personality traits scores, and gender proportions (»75% girls) did not significantly differ between samples. SAMPLE2 also filled in the Fear of COVID-19 Scale and a new version of the Inventory of Sources of Stress During Medical Education/ISSDME, containing a COVID-19 -related dimension (restrictions on training and on socializing with friends/colleagues).

Results: SAMPLE2 presented significantly higher mean scores of depression (3.89±3.55vs.3.33±3.34), anxiety (3.27±4.08vs.2.86±3.29), stress (7.07±5.72vs.6.18±4.59) and total DASS (12.28±10.55vs.13.65±11.13) than SAMPLE1 (all p<.05). Fear of COVID-19 was a significant predictor of DASS score (adjusted R2=2.9%, p<.001). COVID-19-related stressors continued explaining significant increments of DASS variance after controlling for each of the ISSDME dimensions: Course demands (R2 Change=1.8%), Human demands (2.5%), Lifestyle (2.3%), Academic competition (5.5%), and Academic adjustment (5.2%) (all p<.001).

**Conclusions:** This study adds to the evidence of the negative impact of COVID-19 on students and emphasizes its pernicious role on medical students' psychological distress, which is already higher due to the individual and academic stressors to which they are more exposed.

Disclosure: No significant relationships.

**Keywords:** stress sources; Covid-19 pandemic; depression anxiety and stress scale; medical students

## **EPV0397**

Persistent emotional stress, fatigue and impaired neurocognitive function in recovered COVID-19 patients: a longitudinal prospective study

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**Introduction:** Several surveys report that post-COVID-19 patients (pts) could be at risk of persistent emotional distress, fatigue and impaired neurocognitive function (NCF).

**Objectives:** The aim was to assess emotional distress, fatigue and NCF in order to provide adequate care.

**Methods:** Patients with persistent physical or mental symptoms, at least 8 weeks post-COVID-19, were eligible for this ongoing prospective longitudinal single center trial. Data on depression, anxiety, cognition, post-traumatic stress symptoms (PTSS) and fatigue were collected using 4 validated questionnaires at study entry (T0) and at 6 months (T1).

Results: Ninety-three pts were recruited between November 2020-March 2021. Test results from 64 eligible pts (15 male pts) were analyzed at T0; 63 pts (98%) were treated in outpatient settings. Median age was 47 years [range 27-75]). Median time since COVID-19 was 29 weeks [range 8-53]. Twenty-two pts (34%) had a history of psychiatric disorders. According to the Hospital Anxiety Depression Scale (HADS), 44 pts (73%) reported anxiety symptoms and 26 pts (41%) reported depressive symptoms; 48 pts (69%) reported cognitive complaints according to the Cognitive Failure Questionnaire and 29 pts (45%) suffered from PTSS, according to the Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Checklist-Civilian Version (PCL-C). Fifty-five pts (86%) had an elevated score on the Fatigue Severity Scale, indicating severe fatigue. Twenty-seven pts (42%) were still on sick leaf. Diminished social support and psychiatric history were predictive factors for neurocognitive dysfunction and PTSS.

**Conclusions:** A majority of patients who recovered physically from COVID-19, are at risk for suffering from persistent anxiety, PTSS and neurocognitive dysfunction.

Disclosure: No significant relationships.

**Keywords:** Covid-19; cognitive function; post-traumatic stress symptoms; Anxiety

### **EPV0398**

Viral topic about the COVID-19 vaccination: the attitudes towards it and the relationship with the well-being and religiosity in a group of Polish students

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**Introduction:** The COVID-19 pandemic currently remains the most significant stressor affecting the global population. Researchers continually report widespread mistrust and negative attitudes towards vaccination, but only a little focus on its association with the emotional well-being.

**Objectives:** We aimed to investigate the attitudes towards vaccination against COVID-19, as well as its relationship with well-being and religiosity after one year of the pandemic duration amongst Polish students.

**Methods:** We conducted an anonymous online cross-sectional survey between 12<sup>th</sup> April – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2021 amongst Polish students (n=1202). To evaluate emotional distress, we used the Depression,