

## 550 - Caregiver Burden and Geriatric Patients Undergoing Electroconvulsive Therapy in the COVID-19 Era

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### Introduction

Caregivers are essential in providing valuable patient information to medical providers. With limited available research investigating caregiver burden among those caring for patients receiving ECT and the new life challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, it is more important now than ever to take a closer look at the caregivers' experiences.

### Methods

Emory's Wesley Woods Geriatric Hospital is one of the busiest ECT services in the country with around 2000 treatments completed every year. In this chart review, researchers are looking at caregivers' responses to the Zarit Caregiver Burden Interview. This assessment includes 22 questions assessing the caregivers' current emotional state in order to examine the impact of the patient's condition on

caregiver wellbeing. The score ranges from 0 (no burden) to 88 (severe burden). Other objective assessments completed with ECT patients are BDI (Beck Depression Inventory), BDI Suicide, Sheehan Disability Scale, ECCA (Electroconvulsive Cognitive Assessment), GAD-7 (Generalized Anxiety Disorder Scale), and CGI (Clinical Global Impression). The purpose of this chart review is to investigate whether the higher severity of depression in patients correlates with higher levels of caregiver burden and whether the pandemic contributed to caregiver burden.

### Results

The Zarit Caregiver Burden Interview has been administered on twelve caregivers (n=12; 6 male and 6 female), all providing care for patients currently undergoing ECT for depressive symptoms. Out of the twelve caregivers, 66.6% reported little caregiver burden, 16.6% reported mild to moderate burden, and 16.6% reported moderate to severe burden. Additional patients are being interviewed in the ECT suite and further data collected will be presented at the 2021 IPA Virtual International Congress.

### Conclusion

As the world adjusts to life in the COVID-19 era, caregivers face new challenges in providing care for vulnerable, at-risk populations. Caregivers of patients receiving ECT facilitate frequent COVID testing and limited visitation policies while continuing to provide care and emotional support to patients with advanced age and a mental illness. Administering the Zarit Caregiver Burden Interview can help providers look at the degree of burden in caregivers of patients receiving ECT for depressive symptoms and provide better caregiving strategies during and post pandemic.

## 551 - Case Report: De Archambault's syndrome in the early stage of dementia with Lewy bodies

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Background: Dementia with Lewy bodies (DLB) is the second most common form of degenerative dementia after Alzheimer's disease. In some patients with DLB, relatively rare delusions are known to emerge, such as Othello syndrome, delusional parasitosis and delusion of duplication. Erotomania, also known as de Clerambault's syndrome, is characterized by the delusion that a person has fallen in love with the patient. It occasionally appears secondary to psychiatric disorders and organic brain diseases. However, there have been no reports on cases secondary to patients with DLB.