



EPA CONSULTATION LIAISON PSYCHIATRY AND PSYCHOSOMATICS SECTION REPORT 2021

SECTION COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Chairperson: Prof. Diogo TELLES-CORREIA

Co-chairperson: Dr. Dan GEORGESCU

Secretary: Dr. Giorgio MATTEI

Councillor:

LAST SECTION COMMITTEE ELECTIONS HELD:

Date: 26/06/2020

Venue: Online Meeting due to the CoViD-19 emergency

ACTIVITIES OF THE SECTION IN 2021:

Meetings/events

Meeting concerning the two Section Projects on the Covid pandemic

Description: ----- Forwarded message ----- From: Giorgio Mattei Date: Mon, Dec 13, 2021 at 3:19 PM Subject: Today's Meeting - minutes and files To: Silvia Ferrari , , Krzysztof Krysta , Vladimir Korostiy , Gilbert Lemmens , Giorgio Mattei , , Jacopo Santambrogio , diogo telles Dear all, Thank you for your participation in today's CLP Section Meeting. Please find below and attached herewith the minutes; feel free to send me corrections and details I might have forgotten to put down. I kindly ask you to remember the following dates: - deadline for data collection: 31 January 2022. - 24 January 2022 at 2 o'clock CET:



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Next Meeting to discuss the advancement of the two studies. I will soon come to you with some notes concerning data collection, qualitative coding and the use of the Excel Sheet. In the meantime, I wish you a white, warm, and beautiful Christmas, and a happy, safe, and successful 2022! Giorgio Meeting of the EPA Section on Consultation Liaison Psychiatry – 13 December 2021 Participants: Diogo Telles (Portugal, head of section), Krzysztof Krysta (Poland), Gilbert Lemmens (Netherlands), Silvia Ferrari (Italy), Jacopo Santambrogio (Italy), Giorgio Mattei (Italy, secretary of section). Keeper of minutes: Giorgio Mattei Apologize: Dan Georgescu, Dalibor Karlović, Virgil-Radu Enatescu Diogo Telles informs participants of the recent advances of the Section: the joint-workshop was accepted for the next EPA Congress (Budapest 2022), the two projects on CLP across Europe described in detail during today' meeting, the meeting with Professor Martina Rojnic Kuzman, Secretary for Sections at the EPA. Giorgio Mattei gives information concerning the two studies carried out by the section (protocols attached herewith) and the list of participants (below): Section member Country e-mail address Silvia Ferrari Italy silvia.ferrari@unimore.it Dalibor Karlovic Croatia dalibor.karlovic@gmail.com Krzysztof Krysta Poland krysta@mp.pl Vladimir Korostiy Ukraine vikorostiy@ukr.net Gilbert Lemmens Belgium gilbert.Lemmens@ugent.be Giorgio Mattei Italy giorgiomatteimd@gmail.com Dinos Radis Greece Radidinu@hotmail.com Jacopo Santambrogio Italy j.santambrogio@gmail.com Diogo Telles-Correia Portugal tellesdiogo@gmail.com Diogo Telles recalls that for each study, 20 participants should be enrolled. Krzysztof Krysta and Gilbert Lemmens informs about a little delay in data collection After discussion, all participants agree on fixing a deadline for data collection on 31 January 2022. Silvia Ferrari refers of another similar project, that involves the national association of CL psychiatry (led L. Grassi), that might be pasted with the section's projects, and points out some ethical issues concerning the study design, especially with respect to Modena. Krzysztof Krysta informs on ethical regulations in Poland. Then all participants discuss ethical issues of the studies. Giorgio Mattei says that after having pooled all data together, each participant can continue data collection in his/her country to continue the study. Diogo Telles stresses the importance to finish and publish the international study with pooled data (possibly on European Psychiatry) before each country-member continues/publishes national data, as well as the importance to present the results during the EPA 2022 in Budapest. · Next Meeting: 24 January 2022 at 2 o'clock CET to discuss about data collection and completion. · Instruction concerning the Excel file for data collection will be sent as soon as possible

Location: online meeting

Start date: 13/12/2021

End date: 13/12/2021

Publications

Mental health research and practice: scientific evidence and clinical experience

Journal:

Book

Authors:

Section members



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Confirmed: Diogo Telles-Correia, Giorgio Mattei
We are currently waiting for other colleagues' confirmation
(Expected) Publication date: 31/12/2021
Acknowledged as official Section publication? Yes

Other Section activities

Description:

Ongoing research

STUDY PROTOCOL

IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON GENERAL HOSPITAL PHYSICIANS WORK AND MENTAL HEALTH: A CROSS SECTIONAL STUDY

JANUARY 2021

EPA Section on Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry

Introduction

On 11 March 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the novel Corona Virus-19 Disease (CoViD-19) a pandemic (WHO, 2020). Since then, the world has been experiencing an unprecedented public health crisis, with consequences not only for physical health but also for the mental health of the population. A particularly vulnerable group is health care professionals. From the very beginning, concerns arose with respect to the health outcomes of the pandemic on professionals working in health care facilities (Torales et al., 2000).

Several studies have assessed the impact of the pandemic on the mental health of healthcare professionals, including doctors, especially those who fight directly in the front line ((Vanhaecht et al., 2020) Lv et al., 2020). On the other hand, less attention has been paid to the impact of the pandemic on a global level, i.e., on all medical community, including those professionals who were not directly involved in the health care in CoViD-19 dedicated hospital wards and services.

The present study aims to fulfil this gap. Building on previous observation, we hypothesized that the pandemic may have impaired the work of this group of medical doctors, and potentially their health, thus favoring burn out and mental health symptoms.

This project aims to study the impact of COVID-19 in the usual clinical practice of doctors of different specialties who support patients admitted to a general hospital, and also in their mental health.

The study was carried out by the Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry Section of the European Psychiatric



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Association.

Aim

General

To assess the impact of CoViD-19 on the usual clinical practice of doctors of the various specialties who support inpatients in general hospitals, and on their mental health.

Specific

To study what is the impact of COVID-19 in the usual care of non-covid inpatients

To know what is the impact of COVID-19 in the usual care of inpatients affected by COVID-19

To study what was the impact of COVID-19 on all doctors' mental health

To evaluate if there is any difference between the mental health of doctors who frequently care for COVID-19 patients and those who do not or only occasionally care for these patients

Methods

Study design

This is a cross-sectional study.

The study protocol will be sent to the Ethical Committee of each hospital involved for evaluation.

No data are available to calculate the sample size a priori. Therefore, to enroll participants, a snowball approach will be adopted. Specifically, each liaison psychiatrists of the Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry Section of the EPA will identify the doctors working in the different wards of his/her general hospital, in order to send them an e-mail with the link to the online questionnaire to fill in.

The questionnaire has the following structure. In the first part, socio-demographic information is collected. In the second part, questions concerning working with non-CoViD-19 patients are asked. In the third part, questions concerning working with CoViD-19 patients are asked.

Questionnaire on medical doctors in general hospitals during the covid-19 pandemic

Please answer the following multiple choice questions, and comment your thoughts in the space after the item "comments":

FIRST PART: SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHICS:

Age:



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Gender: Male/Female

Nationality:

1. Are you a

a) Specialist

b) Resident

1

2. Years of experience in the medical field _____

SECOND PART: QUESTIONS REGARDING NON-COVID HOSPITALIZED PATIENTS

3. In which conditions do you assist non-CoViD-19 hospitalized patients? (please tick the correct answer/s)

a) face to face consultations using protective face mask

b) face to face consultations using a protective uniform

c) consultations using patients` mobile phone

d) consultations using internal phone line in the hospital

e) consultations based on the interview with the doctor responsible for the patient

4. Did the covid-19 pandemic have had an impact on the way you approach hospitalized non- CoViD-19 patients?

a) Nothing

b) Slight impact

c) Moderate impact

d) Severe impact

e) Very Severe impact

In what way? - Comments:

5. Did the number of non- COVID-19 inpatients that you treated during this period changed?

a) You had less patients



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b) You had the same number of patients

c) you had more patients

6. In non-COVID-19, do you think that the more common types of diagnosis of inpatients changed during this period?

a) yes

b) no

In what way? - Comments: _____

THIRD PART: REGARDING COVID-19 HOSPITALIZED PATIENTS

7. Do you use to care for COVID-19 hospitalized patients?

a) Never

b) Occasionally

c) Sometimes

d) Frequently

e) Very Frequently

If your answer is Never or occasionally, the questionnaire ends here. If your answer is sometimes, frequently, very frequently please continue answering the following questions:

9. Did you had any specialized training before addressing such patients?

a) yes

b) no

10. In which way did you consult COVID-19 inpatients? (please tick in the correct answer/s)

a) face to face consultations using protective face mask

b) face to face consultations using a protective uniform

c) consultations using patients` mobile phone

d) consultations using internal phone line in the hospital



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e) consultations based on the interview with the doctor responsible for the patient

12 Regarding COVID-19 patients how frequently did they had a comorbid psychiatric diagnosis?

- a) Never
- b) Occasionally
- c) Sometimes
- d) Frequently
- e) Very Frequently

11 What were the most frequent psychiatric disorders? (being 1- the most frequent and 6 the less frequent).

Adjustment disorder

- b) Anxiety disorder: _
- c) Depressive disorder:_
- d) Delirium:_
- e) Psychotic disorder: __
- f) Other (please specify _____):

12 Regarding all the COVID-19 inpatient patients you cared for, was it necessary to ask for a liaison psychiatry consultation to help the management of their psychiatric disorder?

- a) Never
- b) Occasionally
- c) Sometimes
- d) Frequently
- e) Very Frequently

13) During the period you have consulted COVID-19 inpatients how frequently you (personally) experience any of the below? (please tick in the correct answer/s)

- 1) anxiety



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a) Never

b) Occasionally

c) Sometimes

d) Frequently

e) Very Frequently

2) depressive mood

a) Never

b) Occasionally

c) Sometimes

d) Frequently

e) Very Frequently

3)hopelessness, helplessness

a) Never

b) Occasionally

c) Sometimes

d) Frequently

e) Very Frequently

4) flashbacks

a) Never

b) Occasionally

c) Sometimes

d) Frequently

e) Very Frequently



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5) nightmares

a) Never

b) Occasionally

c) Sometimes

d) Frequently

e) Very Frequently

6) fear

a) Never

b) Occasionally

c) Sometimes

d) Frequently

e) Very Frequently

Other symptoms, please comment: _____

14) While consulting COVID-19 inpatients did you experience any of the below? (please tick in the correct answer/s)

1) Fear of being contaminated

a) Never

b) Occasionally

c) Sometimes

d) Frequently

e) Very Frequently

2) Fear of contaminating family members

a) Never

b) Occasionally



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c) Sometimes

d) Frequently

e) Very Frequently

3) Fear of contaminating patients

a) Never

b) Ocasionaly

c) Sometimes

d) Frequently

e) Very Frequently

4) Fear of dying

a) Never

b) Ocasionaly

c) Sometimes

d) Frequently

e) Very Frequently

Other fears. Please comment:_____

15. Did you need a psychological/psychiatric support in your work during this period (or after it) due to your assistance to COVID-19 patients

a) yes

b)no

d) in some situations

16. Did you tested positive for COVID-19 at any time?

a) yes

b) no



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17) Please write some comments on some lessons you learned with this situation, and with some problems you had to face with it:

Comment: _____

FOURTH PART: HOSPITAL ANXIETY AND DEPRESSION SCALE (Zigmond & Snaith RP, 1983)

Italian validation: Constantini et al., 1999.

Statistical analysis

Descriptive statistics will be performed using means, medians, frequencies, standard deviations, and ranges. The inferential analysis will be performed by means of correlations and multiple logistic regressions. All statistics will be performed with STATA 12.1 (College Station, TX).

Limitations

This study has several limitations that need to be acknowledged. First, its cross-sectional, observational nature does not permit inferential conclusions. Yet, such study design made the research feasible, and the findings of this research may be used to design future, prospective studies. The lack of a control group represents a second limit of this study. A third limit is represented by the fact that no baseline data (i.e., before the onset of the pandemic were available).

References

Costantini M, Musso M, Viterbori P, Bonci F, Del Mastro L, Garrone O, Venturini M, Morasso G. Detecting psychological distress in cancer patients: validity of the Italian version of the Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale. *Support Care Cancer*. 1999 May;7(3):121-7. doi: 10.1007/s005200050241. PMID: 10335929.

Torales J, O'Higgins M, Castaldelli-Maia JM, Ventriglio A. The outbreak of COVID-19 coronavirus and its impact on global mental health. *Int J Soc Psychiatry*. 2020 Jun;66(4):317-320. doi: 10.1177/0020764020915212. Epub 2020 Mar 31. PMID: 32233719.

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Zigmond AS, Snaith RP (1983) The Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale. *Acta Psychiatr Scand*. 67:361-370.

Event Start date: 31/01/2021

Event End date: 31/01/2021



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Description:

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JANUARY 2021

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this period?

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- b) Occasionally
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d) Frequently

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2) depressive mood

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3) hopelessness, helplessness

a) Never

b) Occasionally

c) Sometimes

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4) flashbacks

a) Never

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c) Sometimes

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5) nightmares

a) Never

b) Occasionally



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- c) Sometimes
- d) Frequently
- e) Very Frequently
- 6) fear
- a) Never

- b) Occasionally
- c) Sometimes
- d) Frequently
- e) Very Frequently

Other symptoms, please comment: _____

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1) Fear of being contaminated

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- b) Occasionally
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- d) Frequently
- e) Very Frequently

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- c) Sometimes
- d) Frequently
- e) Very Frequently



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3) Fear of contaminating patients

- a) Never
- b) Ocasionally
- c) Sometimes
- d) Frequently
- e) Very Frequently

4) Fear of dying

- a) Never
- b) Ocasionally
- c) Sometimes
- d) Frequently
- e) Very Frequently

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Comment:_____



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FOURTH PART: HOSPITAL ANXIETY AND DEPRESSION SCALE (Zigmond & Snaith RP, 1983)

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References

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FUTURE ACTIVITIES:

Meetings/events

Meeting concerning the two Section Projects on the Covid pandemic

Description:

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Giorgio Mattei <giorgiomatteimd@gmail.com>

Date: Sun, Mar 27, 2022 at 8:39 PM

Subject: CLP Section Projects: information and deadline

To: Silvia Ferrari <silvia.ferrari@unimore.it>, <dalibor.karlovic@gmail.com>, Krzysztof Krysta <krysta@mp.pl>, Vladimir Korostiy <vikorostiy@ukr.net>, Gilbert Lemmens <gilbert.Lemmens@ugent.be>, Giorgio Mattei <giorgiomatteimd@gmail.com>, <Radidinu@hotmail.com>, Jacopo Santambrogio <j.santambrogio@gmail.com>, diogo telles <tellesdiogo@gmail.com>

Dear All,

On 21 Monday 2022 we had a meeting to discuss the state of the two projects of our section.

Here is some information:

1) as far as the first project is concerned (focused on CL psychiatrists), the sample size is: 20 participants in Italy, 20 in Poland, 21 in Portugal and 10 in Croatia: all in all, 71. There is still time for the enrollment of other participants in other countries. Please consider that during the meeting we agreed that the DEADLINE for this study will be 20 April 2022.

2) as far as the second project is concerned (focused on physicians working in non-Covid wards) the sample size is 10 in Croatia and 10 in Portugal. We need to enlarge the sample size, with respect to the number of participants as well as of countries involved. For this study, the agreed DEADLINE will be 30 April 2022.



EUROPEAN PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION



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Please note that data received after the two deadlines will not be included in the studies that will be presented during the 2022 EPA in Budapest.

Here is the link to the next meeting, that is schedule on Monday 2 May 2022 at 2:15 CEST:

meet.google.com/zdx-fogb-asx

In the next few days I will send you the Excel sheet for data collection with instructions.

Cheers,

Giorgio

Location: online meeting

Start date: 21/03/2022

End date: 21/03/2022

FUNDING IN 2021

Income: None

Source(s) of funding:

None

Expenditure: None

Balance: None

EPA Treasurer audit: No

Confirmation that income / expenditure is via EPA: No