



EPA OLD AGE PSYCHIATRY SECTION REPORT 2021

SECTION COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Chairperson: Prof. Gabriela STOPPE

Co-chairperson: Dr. Cécile HANON

Secretary: Dr. Samuel BULTEAU

Councillor: Dr. Carlos Augusto DE MENDONCA LIMA

Councillor: Diego DE LEO

Councillor: Filip BOUCKAERT

LAST SECTION COMMITTEE ELECTIONS HELD:

Date: 17 May 2021

Venue: Virtual

ACTIVITIES OF THE SECTION IN 2021:

Meetings/events

Section of Old Age Psychiatry Meeting

Description:

After our first virtual section meeting, we started regular Zoom meetings, in order to strengthen cohesion within the section and supporting exchange during the pandemic. The dates /wereare:

12/11/2020, 21/01/2021, 18/02/2021; 18/03/2021, 12/04/2021, 20/05/21, 17/06/21, 19/08/2021, 23/09/2021, 21/10/2021, 18/11/2021, 16/12/2021, 26/01/22, 23/02/22, 30/03/22, 27/04/22, 25/05/22, 22/06/22, 31/08/22, 28/09/22, 26/10/22, 23/11/22, 14/12/22

Location: Zoom / Virtual

Start date: 16/12/2021

End date: 14/12/2022

Attendance: section members

Covid 19 Pandemia and the demented patients in nursing homes

Description:

Section Symposium



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Chairs: Gabriela Stoppe (CH), Cécile Hanon (F)

Speakers: Gabriela Stoppe (CH), Diego di Leo (I/AUS), Iva Holmerova (CZ), Benjamin Calvet (F)

Partners:

The COVID 19 pandemic quickly showed that the older population is a risk group with particular vulnerability. This was particularly true for patients with dementia. They had difficulty understanding the situation, observing distance rules and using masks appropriately. The situation is particularly difficult in nursing homes. In many countries the visit of relatives and also doctors in nursing homes has been banned. Nevertheless, the proportion of people who died in these institutions was high in all countries, for example in Germany up to one third of deaths. What consequences this has and has had for nursing homes, relatives, dementia patients and the people caring for them is to be discussed in greater depth in this symposium, with particular attention being paid to ethical aspects. It will also be discussed which preventive measures can be derived for the future.

Location: <https://epa-congress.org>

Start date: 10/04/2021

End date: 13/04/2021

Medication deprescribing in real clinical settings: from lists to collaborative care

Description:

Chairs: Gabriela Stoppe (CH), Matej Stuhec (SLO)

Speakers: Matej Stuhec (SLO), Filip Bouckaert (B), Gabriela Stoppe (CH), Pavel Mohr (CZ)

Partners:

Intersectional Workshop together with the Section of Psychopharmacology

Location: <https://epa-congress.org>

Start date: 10/04/2021

End date: 13/04/2021

CME Course

Description:



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Chairs: Gabriela Stoppe (CH), Filip Bouckaert (B)

Depression is the most frequent mental disorder also in the elderly population and it is often unrecognized and untreated. Compared to other age groups, there are differences in risk factors, symptomatology, comorbidity, differential diagnosis and management. In the course epidemiology and risk factors will be presented. Diagnosis will be discussed with special focus on the differential diagnosis to grief, dementia and anxiety disorders. Sleep problems and suicidality will deserve special attention. Regarding therapy relevant modifications of drug therapy and psychological therapies will be presented. The different types of psychotherapy for elderly (schema based therapy, psychodynamic psychotherapy, cognitive behavioral therapy) will be discussed. We also discuss neuromodulation therapies, ECT, and exercise. The management in the presence of physical disability or in special settings requires tailored interventions. Case vignettes regarding diagnosis and therapy are discussed.

Partners:

Cooperation with the EAGP

Location: <https://epa-congress.org>

Start date: 10/04/2021

End date: 13/04/2021

(Assisted) suicide in the elderly

Description:

Chairs: Gabriela Stoppe (CH) & Diego de Leo (AUS)

Diego de Leo (AUS): Suicide in the Very Old

Patrizia Zeppegno (I): Rational suicide in the elderly

Max Stek (NL): Clinical management of Late Life Depression and suicidality in the oldest-old.(withdrawn)

Christina van der Feltz-Cornelis (UK): What interventions work for suicide prevention? And do they work for the elderly?

Ulrich Hegerl (D): Media and suicidal behaviour

At advanced age, rates of males diverge even more from those of females. In centenarians, rates can be



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eight time bigger for men compared to women. This means that a number of life and existential issues aggregate to make more frequent suicide in older males. A better understanding of these factors may reduce the toll of suicide at these extreme ages as Prof. de Leo is going to discuss. Prof. Zeppegno will focus on the even twofold rate of suicidal behaviours when there is a chronic or terminal illness. Psychiatrists and geriatricians will likely meet mentally competent older adults expressing a wish to die: sometimes entangled with chronic illness, pain, disability, loss of autonomy; sometimes in the absence of terminal illness, but due to the feeling that they have already lived a completed life. The possibility of a "rational suicide" is debated in the literature, and its clinical and ethical implications will be discussed. Prof. Stek is going to discuss the problem that in late life depression the clinical management of suicidality is often complicated by the presence of physical and neuropsychiatric comorbidity. Moreover, in The Netherlands the position of euthanasia in end of life choices may interfere with available diagnostic and treatment options. The challenges of well substantiated decision making in these situations will be discussed in this introduction. Although interventions for suicide prevention are known, their relative effect for the elderly in general have not been explored. But the elderly are an especially vulnerable group for suicide. Prof. van der Feltz-Cornelis will discuss in her lecture what could be aspects of relevance for interventions in this specific age group. And finally Prof. Hegerl will show – at the example of a recent increase in gassing suicides – which role the media and especially the internet plays for the methods of suicide and what it could mean for suicide prevention. And all will include the effects of the Corona pandemic in their talks.

Partners:

Intersectional Symposium with the Section of Suicidology

Location: <https://epa-congress.org>

Start date: 10/04/2021

End date: 13/04/2021

Online elections

Description:

After a virtual conference, the section has set up virtual elections. The final votes were recorded on 17. May 2021 and the results were :

Chair : Gabriela Stoppe (CH)

Co-Chair : Cécile Hanon (F)

Secretary : Samuel Bulteau (F)



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Councilors :

Carlos Augusto de Mendonça Lima (CH)

Diego de Leo (I)

Filip Bouckaert (B)

Jacques Gaillard (F)

Location: Virtual

Start date: 17/05/2021

End date: 17/05/2021

FUTURE ACTIVITIES:

Meetings/events

Forensic aspects in old age psychiatry

EPA Congress 2022

Description:

Chairs: Kris Goethals, Belgium / Gabriela Stoppe, Switzerland

Speakers:

Relevant topics in geriatric forensic psychiatry. / Kris Goethals, Belgium

Old age psychiatry and prison./ Vicenç Tort, Spain

Homicide and suicide in the elderly. / Patrizia Zeppigno, Italy

Sexual abuse and violence in the elderly./ Yoram Barak, New Zealand

Partners:

It is an intersectional symposium together with the EPA section of forensic psychiatry

Location: Budapest

Start date: 04/06/2022



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End date: 07/06/2022

Human Rights in Old Age

EPA Congress

Description:

Chairs: Diego de Leo, Italy / Carlos Augusto de Mendonça Lima, Switzerland

Speakers:

Suicide in Old Age: a threaten to Human Rights? / Diego de Leo, Italy

Human Rights and Mental Health of Older Women / Gabriela Stoppe, Switzerland

Ageism as a violation of Human Rights /Cécile Hanon, France

IPA and WPA-SOAP strategies to promote the Human Rights in Mental Health Care of Older Adults /

Carlos Augusto de Mendonça Lima, Switzerland

Location: Budapest

Start date: 03/06/2022

End date: 07/06/2022

Suicide in old age

EPA Congress 2022

Description:

Chairs: Gabriela Stoppe, Switzerland / Diego de Leo, Italy

Speakers:

Risk factors of suicidal behaviour in old age/ Madia Lozupone, Italy

E-mental health in older age / Ulrich Hegerl, Germany

Suicide and Ageism / Diego de Leo, Italy

Dying with dignity and suicide in the elderly: an end-of-life dilemma? /Benjamin Calvet, France

Partners:

Intersectional symposium with the EPA section of suicidology



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Location: Budapest

Start date: 03/06/2022

End date: 07/06/2022

Pharmacological treatment of comorbidities in elderly patients with mental disorders

EPA Congress 2022

Description:

Chairs: Matej Stuhec, Slovenia / Cécile Hanon, France

Speakers:

Epidemiology and pharmacoepidemiology of comorbidities in patients with mental disorders / István Bitter, Hungary

General principles of pharmacotherapy selection in elderly patients for different comorbidities / Matej Stuhec, Slovenia

Treatment of insomnia in multimorbid elderly / Gabriela Stoppe, Switzerland

Pain medication in the elderly patient / Florian Riese, Switzerland

Treatment of somatic comorbidities in the elderly with mental disorders / Igor Filipcic, Croatia

Partners:

intersectional workshop with the EPA section of psychopharmacology

Location: Budapest

Start date: 03/06/2022

End date: 07/06/2022

Controversial issues, potential risks and solutions in telepsychiatry

EPA Congress 2022

Description:

Chairs: Umberto Volpe, Italy / Jan Wise, United Kingdom

Speakers:

Dealing with psychotic symptoms at digital distance / Wolfgang Gaebel, Denmark



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How to manage suicidal risk at digital distance / Philippe Courtet, France

How to deal with substance abuse in a telepsychiatric setting / Geert Dom, Belgium

Treating children and adolescents with telepsychiatry / Judit Balazs, Hungary

Legal and forensic issues in telepsychiatry / Kris Goethals, Belgium

Telepsychiatry for the elderly / Gabriela Stoppe, Switzerland

Partners:

intersectional workshop with the EPA section of telepsychiatry

Location: Budapest

Start date: 03/06/2022

End date: 07/06/2022

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