

– the program started in January 2013, with 10 sessions in the community, and groups sessions.

**Results** – fifty patients included between a total of 300–initial target 16%;

– the initial target considered was at least 60–75% of participation rate—being the result of 80–95%;

– physical assessment detected 10% of metabolic syndrome being the patients referred to primary medical care to the adequate management.

**Program:**

– twenty group sessions scheduled being performed 19: 95%;

– ten active sessions in community scheduled being performed 9: 90%—one sessions (beach trip) was cancelled due to budget problem;

– patients level of satisfaction: under assessment;

– broadcasting: 2 press articles, scientific communications, and shared the experience through FAISEM to all the Andalusia Areas.

– research: expecting spreading the experience and improve the results.

**Disclosure of interest** The authors have not supplied their declaration of competing interest.

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## EV1026

### **Bridging the gap between clinical practice and research: The association for research in psychiatry**

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Clinical practice and research are frequently seen as two worlds apart, in psychiatry as in the vast majority of medical specialties. In order to bridge the gap between them, economic funds and grants are required, not always easy to obtain. In this contribution we report the birth of the Association for Research in Psychiatry (ARPSY) and its main activities. ARPSY was born in May 2016 thanks to a research prize assigned to dr. Giorgio Mattei by the eight Rotary Clubs of the Province of Modena, Italy (Rotary Club Modena, Mirandola, Carpi, Sassuolo, Vignola Castelfranco Bazzano, Frignano, Modena L.A. Muratori, Castelvetro di Modena Terra dei Rangoni, that altogether make up the so-called “Ghirlandina Group”). Aim of the association is to promote mental health among students and trainees, mental health professionals, patients and their families, and among the general population by means of fund raising, in order to finance research projects, clinical interventions and educational activities.

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## EV1027

### **The impact of animal-assisted therapy in the context of pediatric oncology: Results of an experimental study**

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**Introduction** The use of animals as a therapeutic resource has increased over the past years, especially for patients suffering from chronic conditions associated with high levels of distress, and animal-assisted therapy (AAT) stands out in this scenario.

**Objective** To assess the impact of an AAT program for children outpatients in oncological treatment according to psychological, physiological, and quality of life indicators.

**Methods** Children aged 6–12 years attended an AAT program (weekly open group with a duration of three meetings). The activities followed a pre-established script and children were assessed before and after the intervention with instruments that measure stress, pain, mood, and quality of life, in addition to heart rate and blood pressure records. Two trained therapy dogs were used and the program followed the “Guidelines for animal assisted interventions in health care facilities”.

**Results** Ten children completed the intervention (70% females, 50% with Ewing’s sarcoma/neuroblastoma). There was a significant reduction in anxiety and depression indicators after the intervention (effect size = -0.73 e - 1.27) and a tendency to stress reduction.

**Conclusion** Despite the small sample size, the partial analyses already provided favorable results regarding the use of AAT in the oncological context. We highlight the total absence of adverse events during the intervention, which speaks in favor of its safety. The expansion of the sample will probably strengthen the results found so far, suggesting that the technique can be an important ally in the management of emotional conditions associated with oncological treatment in childhood.

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## EV1028

### **Concerted action by multidisciplinary stakeholders: The development phase of a complex public health intervention in regards to adolescent self-harm**

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Self-harm has a strong prevalence within adolescent populations in Europe, and a potent relationship with suicide. In the UK, adolescent self-harm hospital admissions are rising each year. These statistics reflect the “tip of the iceberg”, with the majority of incidents hidden from public health networks. This invisibility creates barriers to: epidemiological information; the planning and evaluation of evidence-based support; health management within the complexity of adolescent self-harming behaviours to ensure recovery and healthy adolescent trajectories. It is also a serious health risk for this population group, and accidental death from self-harm is one of the common causes of injury-related adolescent death.

Within the aforementioned context, this paper describes a UK county-wide complex public health intervention (2013 to 2015) in regards to adolescent self-harm, with concerted action by key stakeholders in health, child welfare, education and social science due to concerns about the increasing self-harm rate within the adolescent population group. As self-harm is a complex behaviour, and the evidence-base for effective interventions is sparse, the development of protective factors within education, health and social care environments were targeted. A synergy of theoretical models from neuroscience and social science informed the intervention’s logic model. The intervention’s development phase utilised the Medical Research Council’s guidance on complex interventions to improve public health, which this paper will exposit.

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