

Objectives: To investigate the use of psychotherapeutic methods in family physicians work in Latvia and the association between burnout rates and the use of these methods in practice as well as different demographic and work-related factors.

Methods: A cross sectional study was carried out. An anonymous online form that contained questions about the demographic data, psychotherapeutic methods/techniques mastering and usage and questions from the Maslach Burnout Inventory was sent out to the publicly available email addresses of family physicians in Latvia. The collected data was analyzed using Microsoft Excel and IBM SPSS software.

Results: Together 54 responses were received from all regions of Latvia. The analysis found association between work hours per week, patients seen per week, usage of psychotherapeutic methods and burnout. More hours per week was associated with higher rates of depersonalization ($p=0,014$) and burnout ($p=0,010$). More patients per week was associated with higher rates of burnout ($p=0,024$). Being unsure if they were using any psychotherapeutic methods was associated with higher rates of depersonalization ($p=0,028$).

Conclusions: The data obtained allows a better insight in to the usage of psychotherapeutic methods, everyday work and the association with burnout rates in family physicians.

Keywords: family medicine; burnout; psychotherapeutic methods

EPP1094

Mindfulness-based cognitive therapy for major depressive disorder- a literature review

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Introduction: Mindfulness-based cognitive therapy (MBCT) is a third wave cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT) that incorporates meditation exercises in the classical, structured intervention. Mindfulness has been associated with psychological well-being, and certain symptoms that occur in major depressive disorder (MDD), e.g. worries, ruminations, ideas of incapacity or self-devaluation, are considered potential targets for MBCT.

Objectives: To evaluate the current level of evidence for the MCBT efficacy in MDD.

Methods: A literature search was performed in the main electronic databases, targeting clinical trials that evaluated in a randomized manner the efficacy of MCBT versus active comparators or placebo in patients with MDD.

Results: MBCT was efficient in a 10-week randomized controlled trial (RCT) versus standard treatment, and it decreased ruminations, increased patients quality of life, mindfulness abilities, and self-compassion. In another randomized, 8-week RCT, MBCT prevented relapses in MDD, with similar rates when compared to psychoeducation and standard treatment. A 26-month follow-up study evidenced the persistence of symptoms improvement detected after 12 months of the trial, when compared to active control group and treatment as usual. MCBT was compared to cognitive therapy in a randomized 8-week trial, and both treatments had similar efficacy in MDD relapse prevention.

Conclusions: MCBT may be an useful adjuvant to the current treatment in acute MDD, but it may also decrease the risk of relapse after psychotherapy termination.

Keywords: cognitive-behavioral therapy; mindfulness; major depressive disorder; relapse prevention

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Integrative psychotherapy of patients with schizophrenic spectrum disorders

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Introduction: Psychotherapy of patients suffering from schizophrenic disorders remains controversial. There are promising descriptions of psychotherapeutic interventions in combination with pharmacological treatment. Some empirical studies show that different forms of psychotherapy are effective. However, there are few models to combine different psychotherapeutic strategies in a comprehensive way.

Objectives: We here propose a model of integrative psychotherapy that is based on the therapeutic alliance and the general principles of understanding and communication. It comprises interpersonal, behavioral, psychodynamic, and existential elements.

Methods: Theoretical principles of different psychotherapeutic schools are applied hermeneutically to a case of schizophrenia. Thus, general methods of psychotherapy gain contextual meaning by the analysis of an individual narrative. The patient himself assessed and approved his case report.

Results: After remission of the acute symptoms, integrative psychotherapy played the major role in the recovery of a young musician. It is shown how the therapeutic alliance and communication in a general sense interacted with behavioral, cognitive, psychodynamic, and existential techniques. It is demonstrated narratively how recovery was facilitated, adjunct to pharmacological treatment, by method-integrative psychotherapy. Basic cognitive-behavioral techniques ensured at first the stabilization of the patient. Then psychodynamic remembering, repeating, and working through became possible. Finally, existential topics and creative solutions dominated the sessions.

Conclusions: Psychotherapeutic method-integration is necessary to treat patients with various mental disorders especially schizophrenia. We propose an ABCDE-Model that comprises the following principles: Therapeutic alliance (A); behavior change (B); cognitive reflection on dysfunctional meanings and beliefs (C); psychodynamic remembering, repeating, and working through (D); and existential understanding and communication (E).

Keywords: method integration; common and specific factors; schizophrenic spectrum disorders; psychotherapy

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Alexithymia and gambling: Psychotherapy to differentiate feelings

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