

Introduction: Children with mental health issues are heavily dependent upon the attitude of their caregivers towards disease control and prevention. There is also a high risk of COVID-19 outbreaks in the mental health clinics (hospitals) for children.

Objectives: Children with mental health issues are heavily dependent upon the attitude of their caregivers towards disease control and prevention. There is also a high risk of COVID-19 outbreaks in the mental health clinics (hospitals) for children.

Methods: The data from the Municipal Department of Health and Medical records of patients who were treated at the clinic from January to June in 2019 were compared. Statistical processing was carried out using the Chi-Square for 2 x 2 Contingency Table method.

Results: The study demonstrated the statistically significant difference in the types of mental health conditions that require more attention and in-patient emergency treatment options during the pandemic, including decompensation, exacerbation or manifestation of endogenous diseases, anorexia nervosa and suicidal manifestations. To prevent the spread of infection, a specific separate clinical unit was created for patients with severe mental health disorders and symptoms of COVID-19. Additionally, multiple changes were implemented in treatment protocols, staff duties and interactions with the patients' caregivers.

Conclusions: There was a higher demand for in-patient emergency treatment for children with severe mental health disorders in 2020, as compared to 2019. Timely introduced anti-epidemic measures made it possible to avoid outbreaks of COVID-19 in the children's psychiatric hospital.

Keywords: epidemiology; Child Psychiatry; mental health clinic; psychiatric unit

EPP0344

COVID-19: Studying dissociative experiences in a confined sample of tunisian people

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Introduction: Dissociative experiences have been studied in different circumstances.

Objectives: In this study we aim to analyze dissociative phenomena under a stress factor: lockdown.

Methods: We conducted a cross sectional-study, using an online survey, spread during lockdown period in Tunisia, between the 2nd and the 8th of April. It was comprised of sociodemographic, geographic, medical history, confinement status and DES-II questionnaire in its french version. Age superior than 18 was the only inclusion criteria and the no respect of lockdown was the exclusion criteria. Based on former studies on DES-II, 3 sub scores have been assessed; amnesia (measures memory loss), depersonalization (sense of unreality of the self) and absorption (the absorption has to do with one's traumatic experiences).

Results: We recruited 167 individuals; 100 women and 67 men. The most common age class was 20 to 30 years old (60.5% of the

sample). The Mean total score was 11.06 which was higher than mentioned in earlier studies. The mean score was 15.11 for absorption; 5.28 for amnesia and 6.88 for depersonalization subscale. Significant differences in scores were found based on different variables. Women had higher absorption score ($p=0.011$). Besides people living in COVID-19 clusters had lower total score ($p=0.038$). Finally, people with somatic medical history showed higher total score ($p=0.013$), absorption score ($p=0.003$) and depersonalization score ($p=0.012$) compared to those with none.

Conclusions: During lockdown, dissociative experiences showed to be more frequent. But does this mean that a resurgence in PTSD (posttraumatic stress disorder) or ASD (acute stress disorder) in the months to come.

Keywords: COVID-19; dissociative experiences; confinement; DES-II

EPP0345

Impact of the COVID-19 virus and confinement on the mental health of the tunisian population: Anxiety and depression

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Introduction: The 2019 Coronavirus disease epidemic is a public health emergency of international concern and poses a challenge to psychological resilience.

Objectives: To study the psychological repercussions in terms of anxiety and depression of the Coronavirus pandemic on the Tunisian population.

Methods: This was a cross-sectional, descriptive and analytical study. We used an online questionnaire on Facebook, on June 2020. The heteroquestionnaire included epidemiological data and two scales: the State-Trait Anxiety Inventory (STAI Form Y-1) to evaluate the anxiety level at the time of the study, and the Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ 9) to detect a characterized depressive episode.

Results: We included 121 participants. They had an average age of 36.52 years with a sex ratio (M/F) of 0.41. The mean STAI score was 43.12 while the PHQ score was 7.46, indicating that 30.8% of the participants suffered from depression. Both scores were correlated to female sex ($p=0.01$ for STAI and $p=0.02$ for PHQ), a history of anxiety ($p<0.001$) and depressive disorders ($p<0.001$) and to poor sleep quality ($p<0.001$). The STAI score was also associated with a family history of high blood pressure ($p=0.004$), while the PHQ score was correlated to a family history of diabetes ($p=0.02$), a widowed or divorced marital status ($p<0.001$) and to a single lifestyle ($p=0.03$). Furthermore, the two scores (STAI-Y and PHQ 9) were also associated ($p<0.001$; $r=0.67$).

Conclusions: The psychological impact of Coronavirus epidemic seems not negligible requiring psychological interventions to improve the mental health of vulnerable groups.

Keywords: COVID-19; Anxiety; Depression; mental health