

In this period, an increase of adolescents without previous mental health follow-up was observed (44% LOCK vs. 22% NOLOCK).

Conclusions: Our work supports the hypothesis that the COVID-19 pandemic caused a change in psychiatric care in the ED. It also shows how lockdown changed the attendance in psychiatric emergencies, and also in the later community care attendance. Changes are detected in emergency care for adolescents during the pandemic compared to the previous year. Strikingly, our study does not reflect a quantitative increase in the demand. It would be of interest to continue collecting data after the time of the present project.

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared

EPP0574

Students' emotional well-being and religiosity during the COVID-19 pandemic- an international study in 7 countries

K. H. Karakula^{1,2*}, A. Forma^{1,2}, R. Sitarz³, J. Baj⁴, D. Juchnowicz⁵, J. Bogucki⁶, W. Tuszyńska-Bogucka⁷, M. L. Tee⁸, C. A. Tee⁸, J. T. Ly-Uson⁸, M. S. Islam⁹, M. T. Sikder⁹, A. H. El-Monshed^{10,11}, A. Loutfy¹², M. F. Hussain Qureshi¹³, M. Abbas¹⁴, S. Taseen¹⁴, M. Lakhani¹³, S. Jayakumar¹⁵, S. Ilango¹⁶, S. Kumar¹⁶, Á. A. Ruiz-Chow¹⁷, A. Iturbide¹⁷, D. D. González-Mille¹⁷ and H. Karakula-Juchnowicz¹

¹Department of Psychiatry, Psychotherapy and Early Intervention; ²Department of Forensic Medicine; ³Department of Psychiatry, Psychotherapy and Early Intervention; ⁴Chair and Department of Anatomy; ⁵Department of Psychiatric Nursing; ⁶Chair and Department of Organic Chemistry, Faculty of Pharmacy, Medical University of Lublin; ⁷Department of Human Sciences, Institute of Psychology and Human Sciences, University of Economics and Innovation, Lublin, Poland; ⁸College of Medicine, University of the Philippines Manila, Manila, Philippines; ⁹Department of Public Health and Informatics, Jahangirnagar University, Savar, Dhaka, Bangladesh; ¹⁰Department of Psychiatric and Mental Health Nursing, Mansoura University, Mansoura, Egypt; ¹¹Nursing Department, College of Health and Sport Sciences, University of Bahrain, Manama, Bahrain; ¹²Department of Pediatric Nursing, Faculty of Nursing, Beni-Suef University, Beni-Suef, Egypt; ¹³Ziauddin Medical University, Ziauddin; ¹⁴Karachi Medical and Dental College, Karachi, Pakistan; ¹⁵Department of Basic Medical Sciences, Al Majmaah University, Majmaah, Saudi Arabia; ¹⁶Madha Medical College and Research Institute, Chennai, India and ¹⁷Centro Médico ABC, Mexico City, Mexico

*Corresponding author.

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Introduction: There are no conclusive findings about the possible protective role of religion on students' mental health during the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, more research is needed.

Objectives: The purpose of this study was to assess the relationship between the level of emotional distress and religiosity among students from 7 different countries during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Methods: Data were collected by an online cross-sectional survey that was distributed amongst Polish (N = 1196), Bengali (N = 1537), Indian (N = 483), Mexican (N = 231), Egyptian (N = 565), Philippine (N = 2062), and Pakistani (N = 506) students (N = 6642) from 12th April to 1st June 2021. The respondents were asked several questions regarding their religiosity which was measured by The Duke University Religion Index (DUREL), the emotional

distress was measured by the Depression, Anxiety, and Stress Scale-21 (DASS-21).

Results: Egypt with Islam as the dominant religion showed the greatest temple attendance (organizational religious activity: $M=5.27\pm 1.36$) and spirituality (intrinsic religiosity: $M=5.27\pm 1.36$), $p<0.0001$. On another hand, Egyptian students had the lowest emotional distress measured in all categories DASS-21 (depression: $M=4.87\pm 10.17$, anxiety: $M=4.78\pm 10.13$, stress: $M=20.76\pm 11.46$). Two countries with the dominant Christian religion achieved the highest score for private religious activities (non-organizational religious activity; Mexico: $M=3.94\pm 0.94$, Poland: $M=3.63\pm 1.20$; $p<0.0001$) and experienced a moderate level of depressive symptoms, anxiety, and stress. Students from Mexico presented the lowest attendance to church ($M=2.46\pm 1.39$) and spirituality ($M=6.68\pm 3.41$) and had the second highest level of depressive symptoms ($M=19.13\pm 13.03$) and stress ($M=20.27\pm 1.98$). Philippines students had the highest DASS-21 score (depression: $M=22.77\pm 12.58$, anxiety: $M=16.07\pm 10.77$, stress: $M=4.87\pm 10.08$) and their level of religiosity reached average values in the whole group. The performed regression analysis confirmed the importance of the 3 dimensions (organizational religious activity, non-organizational religious activity, intrinsic religiosity) of religiosity for the well-being of students, except for the relationship between anxiety and private religious activities. The result was as presented for depression: $R^2=0.0398$, $F(3.664)=91.764$, $p<0.0001$, SE of E: 12.88; anxiety: $R^2=0.0124$, $F(3.664)=27.683$, $p<0.0001$, SE of E: 10.62; stress: $R^2=0.0350$, $F(3.664)=80.363$, $p<0.0001$, SE of E: 12.30.

Conclusions: The higher commitment to organizational religious activity, non-organizational religious activity, and intrinsic religiosity was correlated with the lower level of depressive symptoms, stress, and anxiety among students during the COVID-19 pandemic, but taking into account factors related to religiosity explains the level of emotional well-being to a small extent.

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EPP0575

Challenges and Factors Affecting Child, Adolescents, Young Adults, and Their Parents in Returning to School After Remote Learning in COVID Pandemic

S. Ashraf¹, S. Srinivas², A. Bachu³, R. Asim⁴, F. Kim⁵, D. Simpson⁶ and K. Shah^{7*}

¹Northpointe Psychiatry, Lewisville, TX, United States; ²Psychiatry, A. J. Institute of Medical Sciences and Research Center, Mangaluru, Karnataka, India; ³UAMS- Baptist Health, North Little Rock, United States; ⁴Fatima Jinnah Medical University, Lahore, Pakistan; ⁵Psychiatry; ⁶Oklahoma State University/Griffin Memorial Hospital Psychiatry Residency Program, Norman, OK and ⁷Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC, United States

*Corresponding author.

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Introduction: The COVID pandemic caused an unprecedented public health crisis and adversely impacted children's well-being. It has negatively affected children's mental health due to social isolation, human losses, and remote learning. Our goal is to learn about the challenges and factors that these children and young adults face upon returning to school and college, which could further decline their mental health. We also need to understand parents' concerns about this transition to a back-to-school routine.

Objectives: 1) To learn about the mental health challenges for children, adolescents, and young adults returning to school after the beginning of the COVID pandemic.

2) To identify the factors and challenges that parents and caregivers face during the COVID regarding the return of their children to school.

Methods: We conducted a literature search using relevant medical subject heading (MeSH) terms in PubMed, PubMed Central, Web of Science, and Medline databases. We identified all published relevant articles until June 4, 2021. After a thorough review of relevant published articles until October 30, 2022, we included 5 articles in our qualitative synthesis.

Results: A cross-sectional study in China measured depression, anxiety, and social support in back-to-school students via PHQ-9, GAD-7, and SSQ, respectively. They found a significant rise in anxiety and depression among these students. This correlation was weak at higher social support. Data collected from 15 children's hospitals found that students want to participate actively in returning to school and the recovery process as they are concerned about their future, family, and society. Another 2021 cross-sectional study in Texas revealed that parents are concerned about their children's health and prefer an onsite-virtual hybrid learning setup over in-person learning (Limbers C. A. et al. *The Journal of school health* 2021; 91(1), 3–8.). Parents in Italy favored school reopening with reduced student numbers (70.1%), social distancing within classes (45.3%), and masks as they were concerned about their children due to COVID (Pierantoni, L et al. 2021; *Acta paediatrica (Oslo, Norway : 1992)*, 110(3), 942–943). Fewer White parents were supportive of a mask mandate for students and staff members (62.5%) than parents of ethnicities like Hispanic (79.5%, $p = 0.026$) and other racial/ethnic groups (66.9%, $p = 0.041$) (Gilbert, L. K. et al. *MMWR. Morbidity and mortality weekly report* 2020; 69(49), 1848–1852).

Conclusions: The return to school after COVID is challenging for students and parents due to the rise in anxiety and depression in children. Social support has been found to be protective of children's mental health. Future well-designed studies should identify challenges and factors that can help safeguard children's mental health and develop appropriate policies.

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared

EPP0576

Impact of COVID-19 on the mental health of older adults, people with dementia, and carers in lower- and middle-income countries: An international qualitative study

L. Ssenyonjo^{1,2*} and I. Ddumba^{1,2}

¹Research & Innovation, African Research center 4 Ageing & dementia and ²Nursing, Victoria University, Kampala, Uganda

*Corresponding author.

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Introduction: The Covid-19 pandemic has exacerbated mental health problems in many countries, yet little evidence has focused on older adults.

Objectives: The aim of this study was to qualitatively explore the impact of the pandemic on the mental health and well-being of older adults living in Uganda

Methods: Semi-structured interviews with older adults, family carers, and people living with dementia, plus focus groups with

care professionals were conducted remotely via the telephone. Data were collected at two time points between March and July 2021. Non-professionals were asked about their experiences of the pandemic and their mental well-being. Data were analysed using thematic analysis. All transcripts were also translated into English and a selection were second-coded by the another team.

Results: A total of 30 interviews were conducted with older adults, people with dementia, and unpaid carers participating at baseline ($n=30$). Using inductive thematic analysis, we generated three overarching themes: Mental health needs overridden by need for basic necessities; Social isolation; Increased worry about restrictions and pandemic in dementia. For most people, limited access to basic necessities, including food, featured more prominently in responses than any direct acknowledgement of how the pandemic has affected their mental well-being. Participants were upset and worried about being socially isolated, with carers concerned about the welfare of many people with dementia and often feeling emotionally exhausted.

Conclusions: Older adults, carers, and people living with dementia in Uganda not only require support to cope with the mental health impact of the pandemic, but most importantly require improved financial governmental support to be able to access sufficient food and other basic necessities, as a group their health is poor and associated risk of deterioration high

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EPP0577

Implementation of Global Action Plan On the Public Health Response to Dementia (GAPD) in Sub-Saharan Africa: Comprehensive Reviews

L. Ssenyonjo^{1*} and I. Ddumba²

¹Research & Innovation and ²Nursing, Victoria University, Kampala, Uganda

*Corresponding author.

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Introduction: Despite the fact that, age is a strongest know risk factor for onset of dementia, and developing countries are projected to have highest number of ageing population, few national dementia strategies have been put in place to address this impending scourge. In 2017, World Health Organization(WHO) released and called for countries to adapt and contextualize the Global Action Plan on the Public health response to dementia, few Sub-Saharan countries have slowly adopted plan. The outcome of the unprecedented increase populations with dementia will be immense. The substantial increase in morbidity and mortality pose a threat to the over stretched health care system and undermine the potential to achieve sustainable development goal (SDGs).

Objectives: Understanding the implementation of Global Action Plan on the Public health response to dementia in the developing countries

Methods: This paper is a view of published and grey literature relevant to Global Action Plan On the Public Health Response to Dementia (GAPD) in sub-Saharan Africa. The overall approach to the review had an exploratory and inductive focus. Articles were categorized around a guiding conceptual framework. Like; A description of structural arrangements and content of national dementia strategy development and normative underpinnings within policy frameworks