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Introduction: Covid-19 was declared a global pandemic by the WHO on 11 March 2020. From the beginning, the pandemic posed a challenge to the different health systems around the world, which were forced to prioritise and distribute their resources as efficiently as possible. During the period between 11 March 2020 and 28 April 2021, the Regional ECT Unit of the Region of Murcia remained closed. Objectives: - Determine the clinical status of patients on maintenance ECT in the Regional ECT Unit during the Covid-19 pandemic. - Prioritise resumption of treatment in those who were clinically decompensated or at risk

- Understand the consequences of discontinuation of maintenance ECT for these patients.

**Methods:** A longitudinal descriptive study was conducted during the month of May 2020.

**Results:** Thirty-seven patients were contacted by telephone. On the first call, a total of 15 patients were unstable or at risk of decompensation.

Prior to the second call, CT was administered preferentially to a total of 8 patients and programmed to 2. On the second call, a total of 11 patients were at risk of decompensation.

**Conclusions:** The closure of the Regional ECT Unit had negative consequences for patients undergoing maintenance treatment. Electroconvulsive therapy is an essential part of the treatment of psychiatric patients both in acute episodes and in relapse prevention.

Disclosure: No significant relationships.

**Keywords:** Maintenance ECT; Covid-19; Electroconvulsive therapy

### **EPV0489**

# Attitudes to COVID-19 during the lockdown among university students in Russia and Uzbekistan

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**Introduction:** During the COVID-19 caused lockdown, when students had to study on-line, they became highly vulnerable to stress. How different were the attitudes of university students towards COVID-19 in such situation in different countries?

**Objectives:** The goal is to determine the differences in attitudes to COVID-19 during the lockdown among university students in Russia and Uzbekistan

**Methods:** In May 2020, there was an on-line survey of 163 students of both genders in Ulianov Chuvash State University in Russia and of 49 university students from Bukhara, Samarkand and Andijan in Uzbekistan. The instrument used was 'Attitude towards COVID-19 Questionnaire' (Nikolaev, 2020).

**Results:** The comparison revealed that Uzbek students are more interested in the latest COVID-19 news than Russian ones (p=.0004), they also consider this pandemic as severe and

dangerous for people (p=.0006), and think that governmental measures to fight coronavirus are adequate (p=.0008). Russian students in their turn, as compared with their Uzbek peers, feel highly concerned about the risk of their own infection (p=.00001), as well as the threat to their own life (p=.00546) and the life of their relatives and closest ones (p=.0005) as a result of coronavirus spread. In addition, Uzbek students regard themselves healthier than Russian ones (p=.0329). Students' self-estimation of happiness does not differ (p=.0776).

**Conclusions:** Differences in attitudes to COVID-19 among students are associated with more apparent socially oriented behavior of students from Uzbekistan, and more personality-oriented behavior of Russian students.

Disclosure: No significant relationships.

Keywords: Attitudes to COVID-19; Uzbekistan; university

students; Russia

#### **EPV0490**

## The dark side of social ties: coronavirus 2019-induced fear and intergroup conflicts

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**Introduction:** The relationship between fear and social ties has been frequently discussed in the context of the coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, but investigation of the nature of these experiences is still insufficient. Research suggests that people who respect social ties often experience better mental health outcomes. However, when socially isolated, excluded, or subjected to rumors, they may become more vulnerable to criticism, shame, and fear. Another potential problem of the COVID-19 pandemic is intergroup prejudice and distrust.

**Objectives:** To examine the development and mitigation of social ties, fears, and biases during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Methods:** We applied discourse analysis to relevant literature and their associated references that incorporated textual, social, and cognitive dimensions. The main databases used were PubMed and Web of Science.

Results: Although the importance of social ties was loudly vocalized as lessening loneliness, people also globally described stigma-related fear or intergroup conflicts. The sense of social ties appeared disproportionately amplified in the form of an in-group identity, group pressures, and empathic distress. Some people overstated worries about their COVID-19-positive status being revealed to others and causing distress for them. Furthermore, discrimination and vigilantism were manifested with fear-related stereotyping and hostility.

**Conclusions:** Our findings support the view that social ties can indeed function as both risk and protective factors. Context-adjusted perspectives and reciprocal dialogs seem crucial to alleviate these negative impacts. The subsequent mitigation of misunderstandings,

fear-induced bias, and maladaptive distress appraisal may lead to a more reasonable and flexible recognition of social ties.

Disclosure: No significant relationships.

Keywords: hostility; social tie; intergroup conflicts; flexibility

### **EPV0491**

### COVID-19 treatment corticosteroids-induced mania.

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**Introduction:** Psychiatric disturbances induced by substances are registered in both CIE-10 and DSM-5. It is also well known, since many years, the association between mania and corticosteroids (more than 200 results in PubMed found), recently widely used during the last pandemic against COVID-19.

**Objectives:** To remember and to point out the association of substance-induced mental disorders, warning about the experimentation in new clinical settings and raising awareness to prevent or treat its possible consequences in mental health.

**Methods:** A two cases clinical series with COVID-19 pneumonia treated with high-doses intravenous corticosteroids during more than a week. Two women, after theirs 50s, with no personal or family psychiatric history, developing after finishing the hospital treatment, insomnia, motor and behavioral hyperactivity and dysphoric mood with irritability, but preserving clinical insight.

Results: At first, these states were assessed by internists and psychologists as reactive stress anxiety and were treated with benzodiazepines and psychotherapy, without success, during more than two weeks. After a psychiatric evaluation, considering the medical history and recent use of corticosteroids, the hipomania diagnosis was pointed out. Antipsychotic treatment (low doses olanzapine chosen) was induced with total remission of symptoms in less than 15 days with *restitutio ad integrum*. Regarding these cases, an updated bibliographic review on corticosteroid-induced mania and its treatment was carried out.

**Conclusions:** With this presentation, the authors would like to highlight, in these times of pandemic, the importance of remembering the influence and relationship of drugs use in major psychiatric syndromes, both in the causal origin and in the treatment.

Disclosure: No significant relationships.

Keywords: mania; Treatment; covid; corticosteroids

### **EPV0492**

## "When the virus decompensated the neurosis." About a case

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**Introduction:** The COVID-19 pandemic and social and mobility restriction measures have had a negative impact on the mental health of the population.

**Objectives:** The objective is to demonstrate the impact of the pandemic on mental disorders.

Methods: 64-year-old man who is taken to the emergency room after a suicide attempt, by hanging with a belt out of concern and measuring the contagion of the COVID-19 virus in the context of long-standing delirious ideas of contamination and hypochondriacal neurosis. Adaptive disorder in relation to previous divorce. Psychopathologically, the patient is anxious and restless, conscious, inattentive and poorly oriented in space and time. Accelerated language with monothematic discourse about the possibility of contagion that has caused isolation behavior to the point of shredding organic waste and throwing it down the toilet so as not to have to go out to throw it out for fear of contagion. Faced with a neighbor's wake-up call due to a blocked pipe, he suffers a crisis of guilt and anxiety and attempts to commit suicide. COVID-19 PCR=negative. Beck's Depression Inventory 24=moderate depression. IPDE accentuated obsessive and avoidant personality traits. Results: Diagnosis: Moderate depressive episode with psychotic symptoms. Hypochondriacal disorder. Ananchastic personality disorder. Treatment: Paliperidone 3mg/24h. Sertraline 100mg/24h Conclusions: In obsessive personalities and hypochondriacal neuroses, the COVID-19 pandemic has posed an increased risk of decompensation for affective disorders and even suicide attempts. Isolation, lack of treatment and prior monitoring, as well as the difficulty of identifying vital stressors, must be taken into account if an early intervention is to be carried out.

Disclosure: No significant relationships.

**Keywords:** Covid-19; Depression; Hypochondriacal disorder;

psychotic symptoms

### **EPV0493**

# Prenatal Exposure to SARS-Cov-2 and Schizophrenia Development: What to Expect?

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**Introduction:** Schizophrenia is a complex and multifactorial psychiatric condition characterized by thought, speech, perception and behaviour disorders, and social and occupational impairment. It has been related that viral prenatal infection may contribute to schizophrenia development. As such, there are some hypotheses regarding SARS-Cov-2 prenatal infection and its potential relation with "future" offspring schizophrenia.

**Objectives:** Literature review of schizophrenia development and relation with viral infections, and data research of COVID-19 neurotropic effects.

**Methods:** Non-systematic review through literature using databases as Pubmed and UpToDate. Keywords used: schizophrenia, prenatal, viral infection, COVID-19, SARS-Cov-2.

**Results:** Several studies had shown a relationship between prenatal viral infections, such as Influenza, and development of