

EPP0972

Age-Related Differences in Reading Negative Texts on COVID-19

A. Popov¹, S. Tukaiev^{2*}, V. Rizun³, Y. Havrylets³, D. Ivaskevych³, A. Petrenko-Lysak⁴ and Y. Yachnik⁵

¹Department of Electronic Engineering, Igor Sikorsky Kyiv Polytechnic Institute, Kyiv, Ukraine; ²Faculty of Communication, Culture, and Society, Institute of Public Health, Università della Svizzera italiana, Lugano, Switzerland; ³Institute of Journalism, Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, Kyiv, Ukraine; ⁴Department of Branch Sociology, Faculty of Sociology, Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, Kyiv, Switzerland and ⁵University clinic, Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, Kyiv, Ukraine

*Corresponding author.

doi: 10.1192/j.eurpsy.2023.1249

Introduction: The worldwide COVID-19 pandemic leads to the development of stress disorders, increased anxiety in the society. One of the strongest factors leading to the development of anxiety, stress in society during a pandemic is the Mass Media. The mechanisms of stressogenic effects of Mass Media remain not completely clear.

Objectives: The aim of this study was to evaluate age-specific characteristics of gaze behaviour related to the perception of anxiety-provoking information.

Methods: 189 volunteers took part in the study (164 participants aged between 17 and 22 years old (students, control group), 25 people aged between 59 and 71 (experimental group)). Participants were asked to fill in Psychological Stress Measure (PSM-25), Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-9), and Generalised Anxiety Disorder Assessment (GAD-7) questionnaires in order to determine their levels of stress, depression, and anxiety. The second stage of the research was an eye-tracking study of text perception - we analysed eye-tracking data during the text perception by using web-eye tracking (EyePass).

Results: To identify the relevance of COVID-19 information, we compared the perception of positive, neutral and negative texts and detected rather a negativity bias than attraction to the positive or neutral stimuli: fixations positive vs negative (p-value < 0.01), positive vs neutral (p-value < 0.01), neutral vs negative (p-value < 0.01). Under the competitive conditions (higher relevance of negative information during Pandemic) the perception of negative text is characterized by attentional priority. Moreover, it should be taken into account that highly anxious participants showed a negativity bias than attraction to the positive stimuli, and this is typical during quarantine.

Conclusions: Therefore, participants showed a negativity bias than attraction to the positive stimuli, and this is typical during quarantine. There are significant age-related differences in gaze behavior while reading text with negative text elements. While the origin of these differences between older and younger adults remains unknown, further research may provide more evidence about the origin of this effect.

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared

EPP0973

Social and professional stigma during COVID-19 among healthcare workers in a Tunisian hospital

N. MECHERGUI¹, N. CHAOUECH², I. YOUSSEF¹, M. Mersni¹, D. BRAHIM¹, G. BAHRI¹, S. ERNEZ^{1*}, H. BEN SAID¹ and N. LADHARI¹

¹Charles Nicolle hospital and ²Habib Thameur hospital, Tunis, Tunisia

*Corresponding author.

doi: 10.1192/j.eurpsy.2023.1250

Introduction: Healthcare workers (HCWs) are on the front line in the management of the COVID-19 pandemic. They are at higher risk of acquiring SARS-CoV2 infection and might transmit the virus to other person or their family members. All these gave rise to stigma toward society, family, and HCWs.

Objectives: to measure social and professional stigma and guilty feelings among HCWs in a Tunisian hospital.

Methods: A cross-sectional study using a questionnaire (socio-demographic and professional characteristics and three questions (yes/no) related to social and professional stigma and guilty feelings) was conducted from September 1 to December 31, 2020, at Charles Nicolle hospital of Tunis. The survey was distributed among HCWs consulting the department of occupational health after a COVID-19 infection.

Results: A total of 259 HCWs were included in the study. The mean age was 41±10 years with a sex ratio of 0.25. The HCWs were married in 66.8% of cases. The professional categories were represented mainly by nurses in 33.5% of cases followed by technicians and physicians in 26.2% and 17.4% of cases respectively. The average professional seniority was 13 years (min=1 year; max=13 years).

The social stigma was reported by 30.5% and professional stigma by 20.1%. The stigmatized population was predominantly female (86%), and the proportion of married people was 63%. The predominant professional category was nurses (36%) followed by senior technicians and workers (25% and 16% respectively). The average length of employment was 13 years. Guilt was felt by 57.1% of the cases.

Conclusions: Based on the results of this study, the social and professional stigma during COVID-19 among HCWs was significant as well as the feeling of guilt. This may have an adverse impact on HCWs' mental health.

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared

EPP0974

Attitudes towards vaccination of persons with mental disorders

S. Djordjevic*, L. Maodus and S. Kijac

Affective disorders, Special Hospital for Psychiatric Disease Kovin, Kovin, Cara Lazara 253, Kovin, Serbia

*Corresponding author.

doi: 10.1192/j.eurpsy.2023.1251

Introduction: The effects of the COVID 19 pandemic manifests in all segments of society, and they have special impact on the vulnerable population of persons with mental disorders. After two years of pandemic, the vaccines against COVID 19 are still the most

important strategy against infection, disease, transmission and reinfection.

Objectives: The aim of our research was to compare the attitudes of different subcategories of people with mental disorders towards vaccination and to discover potential factors that could participate in the decision-making process.

Methods: The research was conducted in the outpatients population, from January to March 2022, in Special Hospital for Psychiatric Disease Kovin, Serbia. All patients included in the research signed a voluntary consent to participate in the research. The data was collected from a self-assessment questionnaire, consisted of 4 segments: sociodemographic characteristics, a set of questions related to the COVID pandemic, history of influenza vaccination and attitudes towards vaccination.

Results: The questionnaire included 147 people, 50 of whom were the control group of health professionals employed in SBPB "Kovin", while in the subgroup of 97 respondents there were 49 people with a diagnosis of one of the non-psychotic disorders and 48 people with a diagnosis of one of the psychotic disorders. In the total population examined, the percentage of vaccinated was 53.97. In the population of persons with mental disorders, this percentage was lower compared to the control group. The results indicated that there is no statistically significant difference in attitudes towards vaccination in relation to the level of education. People who have been vaccinated are also people who would accept vaccination if another pandemic were to occur. In the unvaccinated subgroup, the greatest concern is vaccine safety. This group of respondents did not significantly differ from the vaccinated when it comes to fear of COVID 19 infection and concern about possible illness of family members.

Conclusions: The research showed that slightly more than half of the examined population of persons with mental disorders who use the services of the psychiatric dispensary SBPB "Kovin" were vaccinated.

There is no statistically significant difference in the vaccination status against COVID 19 infection in the subcategories of persons with non-psychotic and psychotic symptoms. In the unvaccinated category, concerns about vaccine safety are a significant cause of vaccine refusal. Such preliminary results indicate the need to raise awareness and provide contoured, timely information and education regarding the pandemic of persons with mental disorders. Promotion of mental health and finding appropriate strategies in the provision of services to persons with mental disorders is one of the key tasks of the psychiatric service.

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared

EPP0975

Prospective Study of Prolonged Grief Disorder in Relatives of COVID-19 Deceased

S. N. Martins*, R. Salgado, Â. Nogueira, I. Guedes, N. Carvalho, Â. Ribeiro, B. Ribeiro and D. Mendes

Centro Hospitalar Tâmega e Sousa, Penafiel, Portugal

*Corresponding author.

doi: 10.1192/j.eurpsy.2023.1252

Introduction: COVID-19 pandemic along with its social restrictions changed our burial practices and the way we bury our dead. In

consequence, it affected people's experiences and traditions which could lead to severe, persistent, or disabling grief.

Thereby, it is relevant to understand how someone may be more susceptible to developing pathological grief and what can we do to prevent it.

Objectives: To assess the risk of Prolonged Grief Disorder (PGD) in family members of patients who died from COVID-19 infection and identify possible risk factors.

Methods: Prospectively, we performed follow-up interviews conducted with family members of all patients who died from COVID-19 infection in 2020 at our hospital. The sample was characterized, and clinical follow-up was performed for at least 6 months after the date of death. By that time, the PG-13 scale was applied.

Results: A total of 269 individuals who had some type of relationship with patients who died from COVID-19 were included, with 68% being female with a mean age of 53.7 years.

After clinical follow-up, 10.8% of the patients met the diagnostic criteria for PGD.

Regarding the degree of kinship, the only predictor of PGD was "spouse" (OR 11,236, [4,762; 26,316]; $p < 0,001$). A closer and more regular interaction with the deceased was also associated with an increase in PDG (OR 5.682, [1.314; 24.390] $p = 0.009$).

Feelings of denial and guilt by the time of death notification were also risk predictors for PGD (OR 2,412, [1,091; 5,332] $p = 0,026$) and OR 2,888, [1,244; 6,703] $p = 0,011$, respectively).

The impossibility of being present at the funeral was associated with a risk of about 3 times higher of developing PGD (OR 3,817 [1,727; 8,403] $p < 0,001$).

Older age ($p < 0,001$) and lower educational qualification ($p = 0,003$) were also presented as risk factors.

Other characteristics including gender, marital status, previous suicide attempts, psychiatric or consumption history, previous significant bereavement or the social and family support of the person contacted were not predictors of PGD.

Conclusions: The present prospective study made it possible to reinforce and support the way in which the COVID-19 pandemic, associated with significant social modifications, changed the way people experience grief.

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared

EPP0976

Biomarker Variability, Severity of CORADS and Impact of Psychotropic Medications on Course and Outcome of Neuropsychiatric Sequelae of COVID-19 ICU Patients: A Preliminary Observation from South India

S. Kandrakonda^{1*}, V. R. Vatte¹, S. Penubarthi¹, S. R. Karri¹, A. Kamble², P. Khairkar¹, D. Pustakaala¹, A. kanlur¹, S. K. Y. Anna¹, S. S. Penugonda³, R. Gadde¹, V. K. Inakollu⁴ and R. Soorineedu⁵

¹Psychiatry; ²Biochemistry, Kamineni Institute of Medical Sciences, Narketpally; ³Pharmacology, NIMS, Hyderabad; ⁴Psychiatry, Sri Venkateshwara Medical College, Tirupati and ⁵Psychiatry, Government Medical College, Nizamabad, India

*Corresponding author.

doi: 10.1192/j.eurpsy.2023.1253

Introduction: There is growing evidence of neuropsychiatric presentations in patients of COVID-19, but literature is scarce on