

Introduction: Much has been learned about SARS-CoV-2. However, the mechanism of short or long-term neuropsychiatric symptoms remains unclear. Several hypotheses, including lack of oxygen caused by lung damage, inflammation affecting brain cells, or lack of blood flow caused by swelling of the small blood vessels in the brain, have been advanced to explain these symptoms.

Objectives: Herein, we presented a case of cognitive impairment diagnosed after infection with COVID-19.

Methods: We discussed, through a clinical case, the possible mechanisms and risk factors of cognitive impairment following COVID-19 infection.

Results: This case concerned a 28-year-old patient. He had no personal or family psychiatric history. In August 2021, he presented a SARS-CoV-2 infection without hypoxemia or respiratory failure. On day 10 the patient recovered. Two days after, he consulted our psychiatric department as he experienced impairment in memory. He had impairment in attention and executive function, and in particular verbal fluency. He said that his thinking was sluggish, fuzzy, and not sharp. *He denied any alcohol or drug abuse.* He was euthymic and he had no depressive symptoms. Arterial blood gas, laboratory, and clinical findings were normal. A brain CT scan with contrast was performed and did not show any abnormality.

Conclusions: This case highlighted the possible cognitive consequences of COVID-19 during the recovery phase. Further work is required to identify risk factors of psychiatric symptoms following COVID-19 infection and their management.

Disclosure: No significant relationships.

Keywords: Covid-19; cognitive impairment

EPV0438

Positive and negative affects in university students at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic and a year after it was announced

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Introduction: The emotional state of university students is critical for their successful learning, efficient interacting with people around, and increasing the quality of life in general. The COVID-19 pandemic widely affected the mood and emotional state of student youth.

Objectives: The study focuses on tracing the dynamics of positive and negative affects among students in the first few weeks after the announcement of the COVID-19 pandemic and one year later.

Methods: Positive and Negative Affect Schedule (PANAS, Watson, Clark, Tellegen, 1988) was applied in the research. The study involved 210 university students aged 18 to 23. The study was conducted online shortly after the COVID-19 pandemic was declared in spring 2020 (N = 105) and a year later (winter-spring 2021) (N=105). Given that the sizes of subsamples are comparable ANOVA was used for the periods under consideration (Levene Statistic > 0.05).

Results: One-way analysis of variance ANOVA showed that evaluations of positive affect differ significantly ($p < 0.05$) while estimations of negative affect do not differ ($p > 0.05$) during the periods of the COVID-19 pandemic (spring 2020 and winter-spring 2021). With Post Hoc Scheffe, it was also shown that the positive affect scores in spring 2020 were significantly higher than in winter-spring 2021 ($p < 0.05$).

Conclusions: Thus, it has been shown that although the level of negative affect in students did not increase a year after the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, the level of positive emotions significantly decreased during this period. The reported study was funded by RFBR, project number 20-04-60174.

Disclosure: No significant relationships.

Keywords: university students; Covid-19; mental health; positive and negative affects

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Epidemiological analysis of hospitalized patients at the Clinic for Psychiatry KCV in Novi Sad during 2020

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Introduction: The 2020 year was the first year of Covid-19 pandemic in Serbia. Epidemiological measures introduced to prevent the spread of the infection have shaped both the everyday life of citizens and the way the health system of our country functions. A large number of those infected required the redistribution of health personnel to work in covid zones and therefore the work with non covid patients suffered.

Objectives: The aim of the study is to process and present the epidemiological characteristics of hospitalized patients at the Clinic for Psychiatry of the Clinical Center of Vojvodina in Novi Sad in 2020.

Methods: A retrospective analytical study of the epidemiological type was conducted.

Results: During 2020, a total of 1345 patients were hospitalized at our Clinic, which is over 30% less than during the previous year. Several males, aged 19 to 45, with a predominant diagnosis of psychosis, were hospitalized. Hospitalizations lasted significantly shorter than during the previous year. The number of relapses was significantly lower. Patients with other diagnoses of mental disorders are significantly less often hospitalized, except for those with addiction diseases who are hospitalized in a reduced percentage.

Conclusions: Restrictive epidemiological measures led to a significant reduction in the number of hospitalizations at our Clinic, primarily because patients were prevented from exercising their right to health care, but also because of the mobilization of all healthy defense mechanisms in a collective crisis situation and consequently reduced psychopathological manifestations.

Disclosure: No significant relationships.

Keywords: Epidemiology; Psychiatry; Covid 19