

(SMD = -0.66, 95%CI [-1.24; -0.08]) revealed the efficacy of SAME, the intravenous route did not exhibit the same efficacy (SMD = -0.16, 95%CI [-0.47; 0.14]). The efficacy of SAME was not influenced by factors such as physical illness, history of antidepressant nonresponse, proportion of females, age, duration and dosage of SAME supplementation, publication year, and baseline depression severity. There was no significant difference in dropout rates between SAME and controls.

Image:

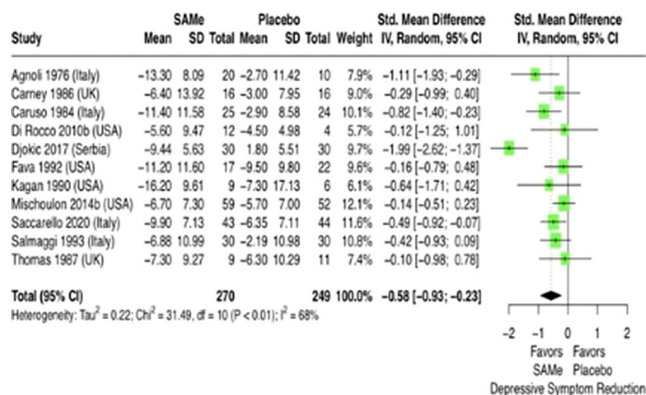


Figure 1. SAME vs. Placebo

Conclusions: Limited evidence suggests that SAME is well accepted and effective in reducing depressive symptoms. However, its antidepressant effect may not be as strong as that of traditional antidepressants. Randomized-controlled trials comparing SAME to antidepressants in depressed patients, both with and without ongoing antidepressant use, are still necessary.

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared

COVID-19 and related topics

EPP0569

Surveillance and monitoring program of child neurodevelopment in population born during social confinement due to covid contingency: monteria-colombia experience

C. Otalvaro¹, A. Romero^{1*} and M. C. Florian²

¹Cordoba, Universidad de Córdoba and ²Cordoba, Georges Noble School, Monteria, Colombia

*Corresponding author.

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Introduction: The American Academy of Pediatrics reports an incidence of 1 in every 54 children (Council on Children with Disabilities, 2021). The unique circumstances surrounding children born in 2020, who have experienced the COVID-19 pandemic since birth, present a distinct set of challenges for their neurodevelopmental well-being. The pandemic has led to reduced opportunities for learning and social interaction, masking mandates, decreased social support for research, and the potential misattribution of Autism Spectrum Disorders ASD symptoms to the effects of social isolation.

Objectives: This study aims to develop such a program for children born during the COVID-19 pandemic (2020-2022).

Methods: All children born in March 2020 were included in the study. The initial assessment involved administering the ASQ-3 to evaluate their development across the specified domains. Diagnostic Evaluation: Among the population, 6% (4 children) displayed concerning signs on the ASQ-3, warranting further diagnostic evaluation by specialized health professionals for possible ASD.

Results: Early Intervention and School Monitoring: Of the remaining 72% (46 children), who did not require diagnostic evaluation, intervention guidelines were provided, both within the school environment and at home. These children were reevaluated after a three-month period. Follow-up in the School Environment: Those children who underwent reevaluation were categorized into three groups: Nine children fell into the “gray” category on the ASQ-3 and were subsequently referred for diagnostic evaluation. Thirty-seven children progressed to the “white” category on the ASQ-3 after receiving intervention guidelines in both school and home settings. The findings of this research underscore the potential impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the neurodevelopment of children born in 2020. 6% of the evaluated population were referred for diagnostic evaluation due to signs of ASD, suggesting a potential association between the pandemic and an increased risk of ASD within this cohort. 72% of children who received intervention guidelines demonstrated significant improvements in their neurodevelopment, highlighting the critical role of early intervention and school-based monitoring.

Conclusions: Implementing support strategies within educational settings was linked to positive developments in neurodevelopmental outcomes. Consequently, school-based neurodevelopmental monitoring, complemented by cohesive curricular guidelines, emerges as a beneficial approach for enhancing child development outcomes. The ASQ-3, as a structured instrument, proves invaluable in facilitating neurodevelopmental surveillance within educational settings, particularly in contexts with high demand and limited access to specialized care.

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared

EPP0570

Psychological distress and coping strategies of hospital nurses during covid-19 pandemic in Greece

C. Papanthanasou^{1*} and K. C. Patithras²

¹Department of Psychology, Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences and ²Department of Medicine, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Athens, Greece

*Corresponding author.

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Introduction: Hospital nurses have played a crucial role during the covid-19 pandemic. Research demonstrates the extent to which nurses were experiencing acute stress and psychological distress during the waves of the pandemic.

Objectives: The purpose of this study was to assess the psychological distress (stress, depression, and anxiety) of nurses working in public hospitals in Greece during the covid-19 pandemic, to identify their coping strategies, and to explore the eventual

sociodemographic and work environmental influence on distress and the coping strategies.

Methods: Sample consisted of 317 nurses working in public hospitals. A self-report online questionnaire was used for data collection. The first part of the questionnaire comprised the Depression, Anxiety, and Stress Scale (DASS-21), the second part included the Greek version of the Ways of Coping questionnaire (WAYS), the third part the Oslo Social Support Scale (OSSS-3), and the fourth part included participants' sociodemographic data. Analyses were conducted using SPSS statistical software (version 26.0).

Results: 18.4% of participants presented severe depression, 39.9% very severe anxiety, and 22.5% very severe stress. Significantly lower levels of depression, anxiety, and stress were experienced by those who slept more than 5 hours a day, compared to those who slept up to 5 hours. Participants who were infected with the coronavirus had significantly higher levels of depression, anxiety, and stress. Additionally, participants who received moderate/high social support experienced overall less anxiety, stress, and depression than those who received low social support. Finally, the more they sought social support to deal with their problems and the more they avoided stressful situations, the higher the levels of depression, anxiety, and stress.

Conclusions: A staff care protocol must be applied by every hospital, including rest breaks and night-shift naps, psychosocial support for those who get infected by SARS-CoV-2 and their families, peer support (groups and mentoring), and coping skills trainings.

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared

EPP0571

Covid-19 pandemic and mental health among adolescents and young adults: results from two studies conducted in North of Italy

L. Pedrini^{1*} and S. Meloni¹

¹UO Psichiatria, IRCCS Centro San Giovanni di Dio, Fatebenefratelli di Brescia, Brescia, Italy

*Corresponding author.

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Introduction: The northern region of Italy had been the epicenter of the first wave of Covid-19. The youth population residing in this area experienced an extended period of restrictive measures implemented to curb the spread of the virus. Given the adverse effects of social distancing and lockdown measures, there is a concern regarding the mental health of young individuals in this region. However, there remains a notable scarcity of studies exploring the long-term impact of the pandemic on the mental health of this vulnerable population.

Objectives: To assess psychopathological symptoms among adolescents and young adults in order to evaluate the extent of their impact in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic. To explore potential risk factors and resilience factors in youth who have experienced the effects of the pandemic.

Methods: Two studies are performed. *Study n1* has observational design and includes 7,146 adolescents and young adults (age range 14–25) evaluated during the fourth wave of the COVID-19 through standardized measures for depression, anxiety, anger, somatic symptoms, resilience, loneliness and post-traumatic growth. *Study*

n2 has prospective design and includes 153 students (mean age 16.1 ±0.49), evaluated before the Covid-19 pandemic (November 2019–January 2020) and 1 year later (April–May 2021) to measure anxiety, depression, stress, emotional dysregulation, maladaptive behaviours.

Results: Study 1. Clustering methods identified two groups of students with different psychological features, that we further defined as “poor mental health” and “good mental health”. Those with poor mental health were characterized by higher scores of loneliness and self-harm, followed by being of female gender, presenting binge eating behaviors and, finally, having unsatisfying family relationships.

Study 2. Over the course of one year, significant changes in various psychological parameters were observed: an increase in anxiety, stress for future uncertainty, and higher frequency of maladaptive behaviours. Stress related to social domains (i.e., school attendance, romantic relationships, peer pressure) decreased over the year. Cluster analysis identified three distinct groups of youths based on their changes in psychopathological symptoms over time: those who worsened (N=23; 15%), improved (N=55; 34%), or remained stable (N=75; 46%). Furthermore, adolescents who reported an increase in self-harm (OR=2.61; p<0.001), binge-drinking (OR=3.0; p=0.007), aggressiveness (OR 1.92; p=0.004), and binge-eating (OR 2.55; p=0.003) were more likely to be associated with a worsened mental health condition.

Conclusions: The findings from these studies substantiated the significant psychological distress caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Furthermore, they yielded valuable further insights regarding into the factors linked to distinct patterns of mental health outcomes.

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared

EPP0572

Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the manifestation and course of mental illness in elderly

V. Pochueva^{1*}, T. Safarova¹, O. Yakovleva¹ and V. Sheshenin¹

¹FSBSI “Mental Health Research Center”, Moscow, Russian Federation

*Corresponding author.

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Introduction: COVID-19 is a multisystem disease affecting not only the respiratory, gastroenterostial and vascular systems, but also the central nervous system, which leads to a wide range of neurological and mental complications. 3 years of experience in combating the pandemic has shown that elderly people burdened with chronic somatic diseases are the most vulnerable risk group for the development of severe course and complications of COVID-19.

Objectives: To study the impact of COVID-19 on the onset and course of mental illness in elderly inpatients

Methods: We examined 67 inpatients aged 50 to 95 years with various mental pathologies, who underwent COVID-19 from February 2020 to December 2021. 46 people had previous history of mental disease (PHMD), in 21 cases the disease developed for the first time. Statistical analysis was performed.

Results: In the manifest group of patients, depressive episodes predominated (42.9%), including psychotic episodes (9.5%). In 28.6% of cases, organic disorders were diagnosed in the form of