

## EPP0285

### Brazilian researchers meet online to discuss social distancing: Results from the first symposium of the group of studies and research on psychology and cognition (GEPESPSI)

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**Introduction:** The Group of Studies and Research on Psychology and Cognition (GEPESPSI) in Brazil has developed important academic and clinical actions on mental health in contexts of difficult psychological handling.

**Objectives:** GEPESPSI organized a symposium to discuss the psychological effects of isolation due to the strict measures of social distancing.

**Methods:** 11 psychologists and one speech language pathologist discussed possible contributions to face social distancing in their specific fields of expertise in a virtual symposium of two days. The themes were: university teaching; support to the development of social and emotional competencies among children; the threat of the death of dreams in a phenomenological perspective; resilience and self-esteem; the repercussions of the lack of the school space for socialization; psychological tools for facing isolation; the challenges and perspectives of women who are victims of violence; online therapy for children; the health of workers; suicidal behavior; formulation of educational policies for remote learning and family mental health.

**Results:** 1094 people were enrolled with an average of 400 people participating in each period. 91,1% of which were graduate students of a university. 55,7% were students of Psychology, 12,8% of Pedagogy, 6% of Physical Therapy among other courses. 39,8% of them were from the city of Santos, the others were from different regions of the country.

**Conclusions:** The feedback given by the participants was positive and involved gains such as sharing experience and knowledge but mainly creating connections to exchange psychological tools as a way of facing the difficulties of social distancing among researchers and graduate students.

**Keywords:** social distancing; virtual symposium; Psychology

## EPP0283

### Post-discharge depressive symptoms and health-related quality of life of critical COVID-19 survivors

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**Introduction:** Survivors of critical illness stay frequently experience long-term mental health morbidity, suggesting that many critically ill patients with COVID-19 may also show a high prevalence of psychiatric conditions.

**Objectives:** To describe depression in COVID-19 survivors 4-months post-hospital discharge and to examine its association with health-related quality of life (HRQoL).

**Methods:** This pilot study involved COVID-19 adult patients admitted in Intensive Care Medicine Service (ICMS) of a University Hospital. Exclusion criteria were: ICMS length of stay (LoS) ≤ 24h, terminal illness, major sensory loss and inability to communicate at the time of assessment. All participants were evaluated at ICMS scheduled telephone follow-up appointment, with Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-9) (depression) and EQ-5D-5L (HRQoL). Critical-illness severity was assessed with APACHE-II and SAPS-II.

**Results:** Twenty patients were included with a median age of 62 (range: 24-77) y.o., the majority male (75%) and married (70%). Median (range) APACHE-II and SAPS-II was 17 (5-34) and 32.5 (7-77), respectively, and LoS was 18 (4-58) days. Overall, 25% patients presented depression symptoms and most reported problems on EQ-5D-5L domains of pain/discomfort (65%), anxiety/depression (55%) and mobility (50%). Depression scores were higher in patients with problems in EQ-5D-5L domains of usual activities (median 4 vs 1.5; p=0.046), pain/discomfort (median 0 vs 4; p=0.004) and anxiety/depression (median 4 vs 0; p<0.001).

**Conclusions:** These preliminary findings show that depression is frequent in COVID-19 survivors and it is associated with worse HRQoL. This pilot study highlights the importance of psychological assessment and treatment of COVID-19 survivors, in order to minimize its negative impact on HRQoL, optimizing their recovery.

**Keywords:** COVID-19; ICU survivors; Depression; quality of life

## EPP0285

### The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the development of acute and transient psychotic disorders.

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**Introduction:** Since the declaration of the COVID-19 pandemic, several studies have demonstrated its considerable psychological impact. The isolation and social distancing, the increased fear of being infected or infecting others and the insecurity generated by the economic impact, could contribute to an increase in the incidence of mental health issues, such as psychotic disorders.

**Objectives:** The aim is to discuss four clinical cases in order to provide further evidence on this matter.

**Methods:** We report on three females and one male with no personal psychiatric history who were admitted to a tertiary hospital during the first three months after the declaration of the pandemic. The average age was 44,25 ± 14,97 years.

**Results:** All patients met the International Statistical Classification of Diseases (ICD-10) criteria for acute and transient psychotic disorder. All of the episodes were triggered by the stress generated from the COVID-19. Complementary tests were unremarkable. They all tested negative for SARS-CoV-2. Rapid discharge with favorable response to

relatively low doses of antipsychotics was possible with a mean length of stay of  $7.25 \pm 2.86$  days. In two of the cases the delirious content was predominantly marked by the coronavirus itself.

**Conclusions:** It has been suggested that the intense psychosocial stress associated with a new life-threatening disease and national lockdown restrictions could be triggers for new-onset psychotic disorders. Some authors have reported cases similar to ours, which means that we could be experiencing and increase in the incidence of psychotic disorders due to the exceptional circumstances we are living around the world.

**Keywords:** COVID-19; pandemic; Acute and transient psychotic disorder; Reactive psychosis

## EPP0286

### Relationship between fear of COVID-19 and individual factors – a preliminary study

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**Introduction:** Fear associated to infectious diseases is directly related with their transmission rate, morbidity and mortality. High levels of fear associated with COVID-19 can affect people's ability to act and think rationally. In a time of pandemics, it is essential to understand individual factors that might be associated to higher vulnerability to stress and fear.

**Objectives:** To analyse: a) correlations between Fear of Covid-19 and clinical and sociodemographic characteristics; b) the mediator role of repetitive negative thinking on the relationship between personality traits and Fear of Covid-19.

**Methods:** 234 adults (75.6% women; mean age =  $29.53 \pm 12.51$ ) completed an on-line survey with the Portuguese version of the Fear of Covid-19 Scale (FCV-19S) and other questionnaires to evaluate clinical and sociodemographic characteristics (years of education, perceived physical and mental health and infection by Covid-19), Personality (NEO-FFI-20) and Repetitive negative thinking (PTQ-15). SPSS and Process Macro (Hays, 2020) were used.

**Results:** FCV-19 mean scores were significantly higher in women and significantly correlated with years of education ( $r = -.14$ ) ( $p < .05$ ). History of previous/current Covid-19 infection did not significantly distinguish FCV-19 scores and they did not correlate with perceived health. FCV-19 correlated significantly with neuroticism and PTQ total and dimensional scores ( $r > .20$ ,  $p < .01$ ). Both Repetitive thinking and Cognitive interference were mediators of the relationship between neuroticism and fear of COVID, even after controlling for gender and education.

**Conclusions:** This study provides preliminary evidence on individual factors that might be associated to the emotional response to the Covid-19 pandemics, aiming to facilitate public health initiatives to ease people's fears in a near future.

**Keywords:** COVID-19; Fear of COVID-19; Personality; Repetitive negative thinking

## EPP0287

### Psychopathological consequences related to COVID-19 infection: The most relevant reactions of the general population

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**Introduction:** As a result of the emergence of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak caused by acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) infection in the Chinese city of Wuhan, a situation of socio-economic crisis and profound psychological distress rapidly occurred worldwide.

**Objectives:** This work aimed to comprehensively review the current literature about the impact of COVID-19 infection on the mental health in the general population.

**Methods:** A detailed review has been conducted in order to identify the main psychopathological consequences related to Covid-19 infection in the general population.

**Results:** Various psychological problems and important consequences in terms of mental health including stress, anxiety, depression, frustration, uncertainty during COVID-19 outbreak emerged progressively. The psychological impact of quarantine related to COVID-19 infection has been additionally documented together with the most relevant psychological reactions in the general population related to COVID-19 outbreak.

**Conclusions:** The role of risk and protective factors against the potential to develop psychiatric disorders in vulnerable individuals with Covid-19 infection need to be carefully addressed in the clinical practice.

**Keywords:** COVID-19 infection; mental health; preventive strategies; Psychological Distress

## EPP0288

### Portuguese version of the fear of COVID-19 scale – psychometric study

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**Introduction:** More than in other conditions, fear is associated with infectious diseases, and is directly associated with its transmission rate, morbidity and mortality. High levels of fear can affect the individual's ability to think clearly, react proportionately and make rational decisions