

Methods: We devised a survey to assess the prevalence of PTSD among HCWs in a general hospital and its relationship with sex, social support, profession, work experience in healthcare, time spent caring for COVID-19 patients and place in which the COVID-19-related activities were carried out. PTSD symptoms were assessed using the PCL-5, Portuguese version.

Results: A total of 226 HCWs were included in the study. Provisional diagnosis of PTSD was made based on the PCL-5 responses, considering DSM-5 criteria and the cutoff score of 33.

79 out of 226 (35.0%) HCWs had a provisional diagnosis of PTSD, and a significant association was found between PTSD and time spent working with COVID-19 patients and between PTSD and place of work, namely the COVID-19 Emergency Room and Intensive Care Unit.

Conclusions: Our results are in line with previous studies, highlighting the importance of a serious, wide, and honest discussion about mental health promotion among HCWs. The COVID-19 pandemic has been an undeniable source of stress for HCWs around the globe, and the consequences of this stress are beginning to manifest themselves. It is urgent that this reflection takes place, as it is of paramount importance that what we all have lived in the past years serves as a lesson, and not as a warning of a crisis doomed to repeat itself.

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared

EPP0583

Analysis of the emotional status of healthcare services in the context of the Covid 19 pandemic

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doi: 10.1192/j.eurpsy.2023.883

Introduction: The psychological burden of the COVID-19 pandemic can have a lasting impact on the emotional well-being of healthcare workers (HCWs). Healthcare professionals working during the pandemic experienced increased occupational stress due to the high risk of contracting the virus, work overload, significantly increased working hours and overlapping job responsibilities

Objectives: The study aimed to assess the dynamics of mental health and coping and to analyze how HCWs' emotional responses to a pandemic at the beginning of the pandemic and at the two-year follow-up. This study compared the results of examination of emotional response of HCWs in 2020 and 2022. The relationships between stress and alexithymia, emotional processing, and negative / positive affect in healthcare professionals were analyzed.

Methods: All respondents of the study were hospital or ambulatory healthcare professionals. Overall, 285 subjects were examined in 2020 while 252 subjects were examined in 2022. Respondents completed several questionnaires such as e.g., the Toronto Alexithymia Scale-20, the Perceived Stress Scale (PSS-10), the

Emotional Processing Scale (EPS), and the Positive and Negative Affect Scale (PANAS).

Results: Significant increased scores were observed for the following parameters: alexithymia, identifying feelings, verbalizing feelings, operative thinking style, emotional processing, suppression, signs of unprocessed emotion, controllability of emotions, avoidance of emotional triggers, impoverished emotional experience, surrogate activities, denial, substance use, self-blame, stress, negative mood, somatic disorders, concern, dysfunction, depression, anxiety state and trait.

The results were significantly lower for planning, using instrumental support, positive reframing, acceptance, religion, using emotional support, venting and positive mood.

Statistically significant differences could not be found for acceptance, active coping, humor and behavioral disengagement

Conclusions: Research indicates that exposure to the pandemic is associated with greater severity of a range of symptoms in HCWs. Two years of the pandemic may have led to psychological impairment. HCWs are more likely to use coping focused on emotional freezing, suppression, avoidance and / or an increase in negative emotions. Clinical observations indicate that caring for others does not correlate with appropriate self-care

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared

EPP0584

Identifying predictors of vaccination willingness and attitudes during Covid-19: Machine learning multi-country study

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doi: 10.1192/j.eurpsy.2023.884

Introduction: While there is some research that shows personal and psychological factors to be linked to disease-avoidant behaviour and attitudes in the time of Covid-19, this research is however mixed and inconsistent (i.e., some studies report a link and others do not).

Objectives: In this study we clarify whether demographic and psychological factors specifically predict vaccination willingness and attitudes using Machine learning of a global survey sample from 137 countries (N = 24 000).

Methods: Random forest machine learning algorithm was used to identify the strongest predictors of vaccination willingness and attitudes, while regression trees were developed to identify individuals at greater risk for anti-vaccination attitudes.

Results: Conspiratorial thinking and lack of trust in experts were associated with vaccination attitudes and willingness.

Conclusions: The findings underscore the role of conspiratorial beliefs in shaping the uptake of non-pharmacological and pharmacological novel pandemic protective measures.

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared