

unvaccinated psychiatric patients found greater than healthy population and the main reason is patient decision not to consent. Loss of information, distrust, inadequate social help are causes of poor decision making and consequent low quality health services

**Disclosure of Interest:** None Declared

### EPV0335

#### THE COMPLIANCE OF PSYCHIATRIC PATIENTS WITH HYPERTENSION TO MEDICATION AND FOLLOW-UP DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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**Introduction:** The current SARS Covid-19 pandemic has negatively affected primary care and health system services provided to chronically ill patients, such as patients with Diabetes Mellitus, Dyslipidemia and Hypertension.

**Objectives:** The recording of the number of unfulfilled scheduled visits of Psychiatric patients who are monitored in the Pathological Outpatient Clinic of Arterial Hypertension at the Psychiatric Hospital of Attika due to non-attendance, before the pandemic (9/2018 -2/2020) and during its evolution (3/2020-2 /2022).

**Methods:** The study was done retrospectively and included 1515 patients with a Psychiatric history and concomitant Hypertension who were examined at Outpatient Clinics during the aforementioned time intervals. The rates of missed scheduled visits, as well as discontinuation of treatment without a doctor's indication were compared and the statistical method used was  $\chi^2$  with a significance level of  $p < 0.05$ .

**Results:** The percentage of scheduled appointments that did not take place due to patient no-shows during the pre-pandemic period was 22% (550/2500). During the pandemic the non-attendance rate increased to 36% (1132/3145). The increase in the rate of missed appointments was statistically significant with  $p < 0.001$ . Correspondingly, the difference in recorded discontinuation of treatment was statistically significant, 26% (523/2011) versus 33% 743/2252).

**Conclusions:** Στην παρούσα μελέτη διαπιστώνεται στατιστικά σημαντική αύξηση της μη προσέλευσης Ψυχιατρικών ασθενών στα Παθολογικά Εξωτερικά Ιατρεία τη περίοδο της πανδημίας. Επίσης το πρόβλημα της μη συμμόρφωσης στη συνιστώμενη αγωγή διογκώθηκε καθώς καταγράφηκε μεγαλύτερο ποσοστό μη συνιστώμενης διακοπής αγωγής για την Αρτηριακή Υπέρταση .

**Disclosure of Interest:** None Declared

### EPV0336

#### Comparison of Glycated Hemoglobin Levels in Diabetic Psychiatric Patients, Before and During the Covid-19 Pandemic

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**Introduction:** The current SARS Covid-19 pandemic has negatively affected primary care and health system services provided to chronically ill patients, such as patients with Diabetes Mellitus

**Objectives:** The comparison of glycemic regulation as demonstrated by the levels of glycated hemoglobin HbA1c % in Psychiatric patients monitored at the Psychiatric Hospital of Attika before the pandemic (9/2018 -2/2020) and during its progression (3/2020-2/2022)

**Methods:** The study was done retrospectively and included 543 diabetic patients who were examined in Outpatient Clinics during the aforementioned time intervals. HbA1c % levels were measured in peripheral blood and at least two measurements were averaged for each patient. The statistical method used to compare the mean value of HbA1c % was the paired t-test and the level of significance was  $p < 0.05$ .

**Results:** The mean of the mean values of HbA1c % before the pandemic was 7.22% while (sd 6.6-7.9) while during the pandemic period it was 8.56% (sd 7.1-9.9). The t score was calculated as 3.3 with a significance level of  $p = 0.0165$  ( $p < 0.05$ ).

**Conclusions:** In the present study, a statistically significant increase in the HbA1c % of the Diabetic patients of the Psychiatric Hospital over the last two years is found, which indicates a worsening of the glycemic control of this particular group of patients. It is worth noting that 24 out of 543 (4.4%) missed a scheduled follow-up visit, while the greater variation in HbA1c % values during the second period indicates the varied way the pandemic affected the behavior of psychiatric patients

**Disclosure of Interest:** None Declared

### EPV0337

#### First wave of psychological impact and associated factors in hospitalized COVID-19 patients; cross sectional study in supra tertiary hospital in Thailand

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**Introduction:** The Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic not only impacted on physical but also mental health of the patients. We investigated the prevalence and associated factors of depression, anxiety among hospitalized patients with COVID-19. Rajavithi hospital is a supra-tertiary hospital which was the frontline in the first wave and gets referral SARS CoV-2 cases from other parts of Thailand.

**Objectives:** We investigated the prevalence and associated factors of depression, anxiety among hospitalized patients with COVID-19.

**Methods:** A cross-sectional study was designed to evaluate prevalence of depression, anxiety and associated factors among 93 hospitalized COVID-19 patients between 1 July 2020 – 31 March 2021. Depression and anxiety were measured with Thai Hospital Anxiety and Depression (Thai HADS).

**Results:** Prevalence of depression was 5.4 %, prevalence of anxiety was 2.2 % Depression was associated with age greater than or equal

to 60 years old ( $p$ -value = 0.028) and requiring supplemental oxygen therapy ( $p$ -value = 0.021).

**Conclusions:** This study shows low prevalence of depression and anxiety in hospitalized patients with COVID-19. Depression was significantly related with elderly and supplemental oxygen therapy. Elderly is vulnerable to depression during treatment and patients who require supplemental oxygen therapy. Severity of the disease might affect neuroinflammatory responses which can relate to depression. Furthermore, severity of disease puts patients in more isolation or guilt that might lead to depression.

**Disclosure of Interest:** None Declared

## EPV0338

### Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in Response to Onset of the COVID-19 Pandemic: Findings from Action Against Hunger's Emotional and Stress Management Intervention in Ivory Coast, Liberia, and Sierra Leone

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**Introduction:** In 2020, as in the rest of the world, the COVID-19 pandemic spread in Africa and transformed people's lives. Adding to the already existing burden of fragile health care systems, especially in low-resource settings, the pandemic response highlighted the need to address the health and well-being of populations in innovative ways. While research findings reported critical impacts on populations' mental health, few studies assessed this progression within African countries. At the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, Action Against Hunger (ACF), developed and delivered a brief Emotional and Stress Management Intervention (ESMI) to reduce symptoms of emotional distress and increase perceived social support through problem solving techniques and relaxation exercises among adults and youth living in vulnerable communities experiencing a relatively high prevalence of COVID-19 in urban and rural areas in Sierra Leone, Liberia and Ivory Coast.

**Objectives:** The primary aim of this study is to evaluate whether individuals who received ESMI experienced changes in psychological distress and social support following the intervention and the association between change in psychological distress and change in social support for each country.

**Methods:** This study consisted of secondary analysis of data collected via routine monitoring of activities by ACF for their ESMI programs implemented in community-based centers and health facilities from May to December 2020. Service delivery mechanisms were adapted to each context and setting (i.e., face to face vs. remote, health facilities vs. home visits, etc.). The main outcomes were psychological distress and social support measured with

culturally relevant visual analogue scales. All analyses were performed separately for each country.

**Results:** In total, 1,412 adults and youth (11-17 years old) benefitted from the intervention across all countries and 1,350 were assessed at follow-up. As a result, changes for psychological support and social support with mean scores difference at baseline and follow up were significantly different in all countries. Correlations between changes in distress and changes in social support varied by country, and ranged from negative in Liberia, ( $r = -.88$ ,  $p = 0.001$ ), to positive in Ivory Coast ( $r = .55$ ,  $p = 0.001$ ), and null in Sierra Leone ( $r = -.07$ ,  $p = 0.11$ ). Across countries, the most commonly reported presenting problems were fear of infection, stigma, and socio-economic difficulties, with coping strategies differing by country.

**Conclusions:** At the onset of a pandemic crisis, low-intensity psychosocial support activities hold potential for reducing psychological distress and improving social support among adults and youth from vulnerable communities in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

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## EPV0339

### Vaccination against COVID-19 and Clinical correlates among a population of psychiatric outpatients

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**Introduction:** Patients suffering from psychiatric disorders represent a population that is particularly at risk of COVID-19-related morbidity and mortality. Vaccination was the most effective strategy to prevent the severe forms of the disease.

**Objectives:** We aimed in our study to determine the rate of COVID-19 vaccination and to identify its correlated factors in psychiatric outpatients.

**Methods:** This is a descriptive and analytical cross-sectional study conducted on 178 outpatients at the department of psychiatry (Monastir, Tunisia) over a period of one month (from March 2022 to April 2022). Data was collected via a questionnaire focused on two main attributes: (1) sociodemographic and clinical characteristics; (2) questions about the flu vaccination history and its modalities.

**Results:** The mean age of our patients was  $44.9 \pm 13.7$  years. The majority of them (81.5%) had a chronic evolution of their psychiatric disorder ( $> 2$  years). Psychosis was the most represented disorder with 57.3% compared to mood disorders and anxiety disorders. Among our population, 73% of the patients received vaccination against COVID-19. The majority got 2 doses (60%), were vaccinated on their own initiative (68%) and by making an appointment (71.4%). Patients with depressive disorders accessed to vaccination program in 100% of cases. The group of psychotic patients had a vaccination rate of 66%. Vaccination was significantly associated with gender ( $p=0.001$ ), age ( $p=0.04$ ), marital status ( $p<10^{-3}$ ), number of children ( $p=0.002$ ), housing situation (0.018), diagnosis ( $p<10^{-3}$ ) and treatment ( $p=0.01$ )

**Conclusions:** Patients with psychiatric disorders experience a distinct burden of the COVID-19 disease. They should therefore be