

**Methods:** A pilot BIT program was implemented in September 2019. Two psychiatric nurses were embedded on med-surg units as a part of medical and psychiatric interdisciplinary teams. After obtaining approval from the Prisma Health Institutional Review Board, a retrospective review was conducted to evaluate the correlation between BIT interventions and patient safety events. Two time periods were examined: six months with early-BIT efforts and six months with expanded-BIT efforts. Medical records and safety reports were reviewed, and statistical analysis was conducted in SAS Enterprise Guide 8.3. Statistical significance was based on associated p-values ( $p < 0.05$ ).

**Results:** Of admitted patients during the study period ( $N = 1413$ ), almost half were age 65+. Pre-existing psychiatric diagnoses were present in 58% of cases with mood, anxiety, and neurocognitive disorders being most common. A majority of patients were on psychotropic medications during both study periods; however, there was a significant decrease in the use of psychotropic medications with expanded-BIT efforts (71.2% vs 61.3%,  $p < 0.001$ ). In comparing early-BIT efforts to expanded-BIT efforts, significant reductions in workplace aggression (6.7% vs 2.3%,  $p < 0.001$ ), use of restraints (5.8% vs 3.4%,  $p = 0.034$ ) and need for security (4.2% vs 0.8%,  $p < 0.001$ ) were observed. Geriatric subgroup analysis demonstrated a significant decrease in the need for security only (4.6% vs 0.6%,  $p < 0.001$ ).

**Conclusions:** Engaging BIT significantly reduced aggression, restraint use, and security interventions. As psychiatric comorbidities continue to impact overall treatment plans, care teams will need to prevent high-risk behaviors and events. Implementing an interdisciplinary BIT is feasible and effective in reducing negative outcomes.

## **FC52: Post-pandemic Characterization of Social Isolation and Perception of Loneliness in a Group of Chilean older people**

**Authors:** Christine M. Gierke, Carlos Navarro, Melissa Martinez

**Introduction:** This study explores the psychological effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on elderly Chileans, focusing on the role of social isolation (SI), loneliness, depressive symptoms, and pandemic-related concerns. With 150 participants, our cross-sectional descriptive study revealed significant relationships between SI, loneliness, depressive symptoms, and gender differences in their experiences. Despite no longer being in a restrictive phase of the pandemic, the findings highlight the interconnectedness of these factors and their ongoing impact on the mental health of the elderly population.

**Methods:** Utilizing a cross-sectional descriptive design, this research involved 150 elderly participants from Santiago, Chile. We assessed SI, loneliness, depressive symptoms, and pandemic-related concerns using the Steptoe Social Isolation Index, the Three-item UCLA Loneliness Scale, the Yesavage Geriatric Depression Scale (GDS-15), and a Likert scale for pandemic concern, respectively. Statistical analyses were conducted using JAMOV 2.36, employing chi-square tests, U-Mann Whitney tests, and Spearman correlations.

**Results:** Our findings indicate a significant portion of participants experienced SI (42%) and loneliness (26%), with women showing higher frequencies of loneliness and depressive symptoms. Significant correlations were found between SI and loneliness, and both were closely linked to depressive symptoms. Interestingly, a significant negative correlation was observed between pandemic-related concerns and loneliness, suggesting an active coping mechanism among the elderly.