

The study was conducted from January 2021 to November 2022. The sample consisted of 390 patients (64 men and 326 women), whose average age was  $28.58 \pm 10.74$ .

**Results:** The subjective assessment of the duration of COVID-19 disease and its impact on the patient's life is higher if the patient is still sick with COVID-19 ( $r=0.340$ ,  $p=0.008$ ;  $r=0.312$ ,  $p=0.000$ ), in a more severe form ( $r=0.341$ ,  $p=0.000$ ;  $r=0.298$ ,  $p=0.000$ ), less satisfied with the attitude of medical workers during illness ( $r=0.151$ ,  $p=0.003$ ;  $r=0.143$ ,  $p=0.005$ ), more afraid for the health of their loved ones ( $r=-0.194$ ,  $p=0.000$ ;  $r=-0.181$ ,  $p=0.000$ ). At the same time, greater concern about COVID-19 and a greater assessment of its impact on the emotional state is associated with patients' fear for the health of loved ones ( $r=-0.267$ ,  $p=0.000$ ;  $r=-0.242$ ,  $p=0.000$ ) and more severe course of the disease ( $r=0.107$ ,  $p=0.035$ ;  $r=0.126$ ,  $p=0.013$ ). Less sense of control in a COVID-19 disease situation is associated with a more severe course of the disease and greater fear for the health of loved ones ( $r=-0.174$ ,  $p=0.001$ ;  $r=0.154$ ,  $p=0.002$ ).

**Conclusions:** Thus, whether the patient has recovered after COVID-19 or not yet, how severe this disease was, how satisfied he was with the attitude of medical workers towards him during the illness and how much he fears for the health of loved ones during the pandemic, is related to such perceptions about COVID-19 disease as an assessment of the disease duration, its impact on life, emotional state, concern about one's own illness and understanding of its nature.

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### EPV0333

#### The Impact of the COVID 19 Pandemic on Psychiatric Hospitalizations in a Portuguese Department: A Retrospective Observacional Study

J. R. Freitas\*, C. P. Desport, D. O. Martins, M. Santos and C. Fonseca

Psiquiatria, Centro Hospitalar e Universitário de Santo António, Porto, Portugal

\*Corresponding author.

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**Introduction:** The World Health Organization declared the coronavirus outbreak a pandemic on March 11th 2020. Since then, the containment measures were leading to increasing mental health problems in the general population and worsening of some pre-existing psychiatric conditions. To our knowledge, there are few studies characterizing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on psychiatric hospitalizations across the world.

**Objectives:** We aimed to compare the number and characteristics of the hospitalizations in the mental health department of a Portuguese psychiatric hospital from March 2nd 2019 to October 31st 2019 with those that occurred in the same period in 2020.

**Methods:** We conducted a retrospective observational study including all patients admitted to hospital during these periods ( $n=805$ ). Sociodemographic data, clinical characteristics and information about the context of hospitalization were collected. Statistical analysis was performed using t Student Test, Mann-Whitney and Chi-square.

**Results:** In the pandemic period there was a marked reduction in the number of psychiatric hospitalizations. There was a statistically significant difference in the median length of stay and in the percentage of involuntary hospitalizations between the two periods. In 2019, the most frequent International Classification of Diseases (10th Revision) diagnostic categories were F30-F39 (mood disorders) and in 2020 were F20-F29 (schizophrenia, schizotypal and delusional disorders).

**Conclusions:** The reorganization of services and the decrease in admissions through the emergency department may explain these results.

**Disclosure of Interest:** None Declared

### EPV0334

#### Enduring the unseen burden: a qualitative analysis on long-term emotional impact of COVID-19 on long-term care workers

L. Gonzalez-Spinoglio<sup>1\*</sup>, A. Monistrol-Mula<sup>1</sup>, C. Vindrola-Padros<sup>2</sup>, S. Aguilar-Ortiz<sup>1</sup>, B. Carreras<sup>3</sup>, J. M. Haro<sup>1</sup> and M. Felez-Nobrega<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Research and Development Unit, Parc Sanitari Sant Joan de Déu, Institut Sant Joan de Déu, Sant Boi de Llobregat, Spain; <sup>2</sup>Department of Targeted Intervention, University College London, London, United Kingdom and <sup>3</sup>Department of Psychiatry and Psychology, Institute of Neuroscience, Hospital Clínic, Barcelona, Spain

\*Corresponding author.

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**Introduction:** Long-term care facilities, such as nursing homes and other assisted living facilities, have been hit particularly hard by the COVID-19. The overall pandemic created an enormous pressure on long-term care workers (LTCWs), making them particularly vulnerable to mental disorders. However, most of the existing evidence regarding the well-being of care professionals has predominantly focused on frontline healthcare workers.

**Objectives:** This study aimed to identify long-term psychological needs of LTCWs derived from the COVID-19 pandemic, as part of a project that is developing an intervention to reduce psychological distress in this population group.

**Methods:** We performed a qualitative study with a rapid research approach. Participants were recruited from long-term care facilities located in Catalonia, Spain. Between April and September 2022, we conducted semi-structured interviews inquiring about the most psychologically challenging stages of the pandemic, perceived emotions during those stages, main determinants of those emotions, and their emotional state at the time of the interview. We used a qualitative content analysis method with an inductive-deductive approach.

**Results:** Thirty LTCWs participated in the study. Mean age was 44 ( $SD=11.4$ ), 87% were females and one third were from foreign nationalities. The period of the pandemic with highest mental health burden was the outbreak, with almost every worker having experienced some form of emotional distress. Emotional distress persisted over time in more than half of participants, with fatigue and nervousness being the main emotions expressed at the time of the interview. High workload, feeling that pandemic times are not over and poor working conditions that have remained since then,