

# Wiadomości Lekarskie Medical Advances



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Memory of  
dr Władysław  
Biegański

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## Analysis of valuations of the accessibility and quality of mental health care in the conditions of the coronavirus disease pandemic and during state of war

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### ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** Mental health care is an important component of the health care system. The quality and accessibility of appropriate care are important indicators of the system's activity under the influence of extreme risks. Therefore, within the framework of sociological surveys within the framework of the PsyCare-Kyiv Region project of the Ukrainian Association of Doctors-Psychologists regarding the state of the mental health system of Kyiv city and the Kyiv region, respondents' valuations of the accessibility and quality of mental health care for patients in the conditions of the COVID-19 pandemic and during state of war were studied.

**Aim:** To carry out a comparative analysis of the impact of extreme risks in the conditions of the COVID-19 pandemic and during state of war on the accessibility and quality of mental health care on the example of the Kyiv city and the Kyiv region.

**Materials and Methods:** Epidemiological, sociological, medical-statistical methods, including correlation analysis by calculating Spearman's rank correlation coefficient (Rho), Kendall's rank correlation coefficient (Tau), rank Gamma correlation coefficient. Statistical processing of research materials was carried out using methods of biostatistical analysis implemented in Microsoft Excel 2016 and Biostat, AnalystSoft Inc. Version 7.3, software packages.

**Results:** In the Kyiv region, 315 respondents were interviewed, of which 69.8% were educators, 16.5% were representatives of the social sphere, 13% were specialists in health care institutions, and 0.6% were representatives of the non-governmental sector.

Evaluating on a scale from 1 to 7 points whether the quality of mental health care for patients has undergone changes in the conditions of the COVID-19 pandemic, the respondents gave an estimate of  $4.0 \pm 1.2$  points, accessibility in the same conditions - at  $4, 2 \pm 1.2$  points. Similar valuations in the conditions of state of war were  $4.6 \pm 1.4$  points for the quality of assistance, accessibility -  $4.9 \pm 1.4$  points.

In the Kyiv city, 206 respondents were interviewed, of which 52.4% were educators, 29.6% were health care professionals, 17.5% were representatives of the social sphere, and 0.5% were representatives of the non-governmental sector.

Evaluating on a scale from 1 to 7 points, whether the quality of mental health care for patients has undergone changes in the conditions of the COVID-19 pandemic, the respondents gave an estimate of  $4.2 \pm 1.3$  points, accessibility in the same conditions - at  $4.2 \pm 1.3$  points. Analogous evaluation in conditions of state of war was drafted of quality granting assistance  $4.8 \pm 1.5$  points, accessibility -  $4.8 \pm 1.4$  points.

Correlation analysis proved the presence of a strong direct correlation between the valuations of changes in the quality of mental health care provided to patients in the conditions of the COVID-19 pandemic and during state of war (Kyiv region:  $Rho = 0.611$ ,  $Tau = 0.558$ ,  $Gamma = 0.669$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ; Kyiv city:  $Rho = 0.584$ ,  $Tau = 0.522$ ,  $Gamma = 0.644$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ) and between the valuations of changes in the accessibility of mental health care to patients in the conditions of the COVID-19 pandemic and during state of war (Kyiv region:  $Rho = 0.596$ ,  $Tau = 0.564$ ,  $Gamma = 0.670$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ; Kyiv city:  $Rho = 0.602$ ,  $Tau = 0.539$ ,  $Gamma = 0.657$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ).

**Conclusions:** The problems of the organization of mental health care, manifested during the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic, have deepened in the conditions of martial law and the emergence of challenges related to full-scale war, and require a systemic organizational solution.

**KEY WORDS:** Mental health, health services and mental health administration, health care quality assessment, accessibility of health services, COVID-19