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Method

We conducted structural equation modeling (SEM) based on representative data of the German population ($N = 2516$). Personality functioning (OPD-SQS) was applied as mediator between ACEs (ACE) and PTSD/cPTSD (ITQ), while epistemic trust (ETMCQ) was added as predictor for OPD-SQS. TLI, CFI and RMSEA (95% CI) determined the models' fit.

Results

$N = 831$ (33.0%) participants reported at least one ACE, while $n = 243$ (9.7%) reported ≥ 4 ACEs. Fit indices were good to excellent (TLI = 0.98; CFI = 0.99; RMSEA = 0.03 (95% CI = 0.013;-0.049)). ACEs were significantly associated with PTSD ($\beta = 0.29$; $p < 0.001$), explaining 8% of its variance. Adding OPD-SQS as mediator increased the explained variance of PTSD to 17% while the direct association between ACEs and PTSD decreased ($\beta = 0.16$), and thus, indicating a partial mediation. The ETMCQ substantially increased the explained variance for OPD-SQS (37%) compared to ACEs as single predictor (15%).

Conclusions

We add to previous research emphasizing the critical association of ACEs and PTSD/cPTSD symptoms. Offering insights on underlying factors, we show that reduced epistemic trust and impaired personality functioning are relevant mediating factors. Since both are modifiable by psychotherapy, profound knowledge about these constructs can inspire future research on psychotherapeutic interventions and prevention.

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110865

Features of mental and behavioral disorders in patients with COVID-19

O. Khaustova^a, O. Osukhovska^b, S. Tabachnikov^b, T. Synitska^b, V. Salden^b, A. Markov^b

^a*Bogomolets National Medical University, Kyiv, Ukraine*

^b*Institute of Psychiatry, Forensic Psychiatric Expertise and Narcological Monitoring of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine, Kyiv, Ukraine*

Objective

Mental health disorders in patients after COVID-19 are diverse and affect all areas of the psyche, significantly impairing quality of life: hospital patients have mental manifestations, including delirium or confusion (65%), agitation (69%), anxiety (34%), depression (28%) and sleep problems and 34% of patients are diagnosed with neurological or mental illnesses within the next 6 months.

Methods

To study the features of mental and behavioral disorders we used HADS and SF-36 questionnaires. 80 people aged 20–80 years, without premorbid mental illness, were divided into two clinical groups depending on the COVID-19 severity: mild course with up to 25% of the lungs damage (group 1) and moderate course with 25–60% of the lungs damage (group 2).

Results

Symptoms of adjustment disorders were observed in 68% and 29% examined persons in groups 1 and 2 respectively; overall 93% of patients had difficulty falling asleep and had shallow sleep. 72% of patients had difficulty concentrating and irritability was observed in 31% of persons. The HADS questionnaire revealed clinical anxiety in 38.6% of respondents in both groups; clinical depression – in 33.4%, and subclinical depression – in 76%. On the SF-36 scale, the vital activity level “below average” was diagnosed in both groups.

Conclusion

Patients with covid often experience subclinical and clinical manifestations of mental and behavioral disorders. However, the mental impairment severity does not correspond with the COVID-19 severity.

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Prevalence of primary mental disorders in the COVID-19 acute phase in-patients

A. Asanova, O. Khaustova

Bogomolets National Medical University, Kyiv, Ukraine

Objectives

One of the unexpected manifestations of COVID-19 is a high prevalence of mental disorders, including depression, anxiety, sleep disorders, and cognitive impairment. The study of the primary mental disorders in patients with COVID-19 is the basis for further rehabilitation of those who need it. It is important to prevent and reduce the potential negative impact of COVID-19 on mental and psychosocial functioning.

Methods

The study group included 110 in-patients with moderate to severe viral pneumonia COVID-19. The age of patients ranged from 35 to 81 years. PHQ-9 depression and GAD-7 anxiety questionnaires were used to study psychopathological symptoms in patients with COVID-19 viral pneumonia on admission. Cognitive functions were studied using the MOCA-test.

Results

85% of patients hospitalized with COVID-19 pneumonia were diagnosed with cognitive impairment of varying severity. Analysis of the data showed both the presence of general cognitive dysfunction and a more noticeable violation of some components: executive, visual-spatial functions, attention, long-term memory, abstract thinking ($p < 0.01$). 51% of patients had depressive symptoms and 68% - anxious symptoms of varying severity. Sleep disorders were found in 63% of patients. In addition, a significant association between anxiety and severe sleep problems ($p < 0.05$) may indicate a psychogenic nature of insomnia in patients with COVID-19.

Conclusions

The study findings may help to develop early interventions to reduce the adverse psychological impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on patients in the acute phase of the disease (in hospitals) and reduce the prevalence of negative psychological consequences in the future.

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Disability in veterans with PTSD, mTBI, and dual PTSD-mTBI disorder

O. Khaustova, O. Smashna

Bogomolets National Medical University, Kyiv, Ukraine

Objective

Multidomain functional impairment is very common in veterans with post = traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and mild traumatic brain injury (mTBI). These disorders can significantly complicate the