

project will also reveal previously unresearched information that can be utilized in national health policy.

Conclusions: The project will promote equal prospects for well-being and a participatory society for citizens by exploring the views of forensic psychiatric patients and thus developing forensic psychiatric services. The project will promote sustainable employment by exploring the views of psychiatric personnel and increasing the quality and safety of psychiatric services.

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared

EPP0132

The forensic assessment of human trafficking victims in Catalonia (Spain): characteristics and mental health status

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Introduction: Systematic reviews show a high prevalence of mental distress among victims of human trafficking. In criminal proceedings in Spain, a forensic expert assessment of survivors may be ordered by the courts. Its aims are mainly, albeit not exclusively, to determine the consequences of trafficking on the physical, mental, and social health of the victims. The Institute of Legal Medicine and Forensic Sciences is the public institution providing psychiatric expert assessments in the autonomous region of Catalonia (Spain). Recently, a unit devoted to the forensic assessment of human trafficking victims has been created at the central headquarters of the Institute in Barcelona.

Objectives: To describe the characteristics and the mental health status of trafficked people identified as victims in criminal proceedings.

Methods: Retrospective study of case records of victims of human trafficking at the Institute of Legal Medicine and Forensic Sciences of Catalonia (2016-2023).

Results: Case records of 50 survivors were identified. 38 (76%) were female; mean age was 30,5 years (SD 10,42; range 17 to 69 years). All of them were foreigners, mainly from Latin America (24; 48%). Most of them were trafficked for sexual exploitation (32; 64%). 11 (22%) were assessed immediately after their rescue (emerging cases). Some of the victims had previous mental health problems, including intellectual disability (3; 6%). Among the non-emerging cases, the most frequently recorded mental disorders at the moment of the psychiatric expert assessment were post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD; 21; 53,8%) and anxiety (12; 30,8%). Complex PTSD was observed in 1 case.

Conclusions: The majority of human trafficking survivors in the forensic setting suffer from persistent mental health problems as a consequence of their victimisation. A trauma-informed forensic psychiatric assessment is recommended.

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Sexual Experiences and Sexuality of Forensic Mental Health Patients - A Theoretical Framework

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Introduction: Sexuality and sexual experiences in forensic mental health patients are intricate issues at the crossroads of mental health, legal contexts, and societal perceptions. Forensic mental health patients, situated within the criminal justice system, require psychiatric treatment due to offenses committed. Understanding their sexual behaviors, experiences, and attitudes towards sexuality is pivotal for effective therapeutic interventions and rehabilitation. Various factors influence the sexuality of forensic mental health patients. Mental health disorders impact an individual's sexual expression, and medications used to treat these conditions may affect libido, sexual functioning, and arousal patterns, posing challenges in their sexual experiences.

Objectives: Addressing the sexual needs and experiences of these individuals requires a comprehensive approach. Mental health professionals must create safe and non-judgmental spaces for patients to openly discuss their sexual concerns. Therapeutic interventions should focus on facilitating healthy sexual expression and providing education on consent, healthy relationships, and understanding boundaries. Forensic mental health professionals often receive specialized training to address the complex intersection of sexuality and mental health within legal contexts. Navigating ethical and legal boundaries while providing support to these individuals is crucial, ensuring that interventions align with legal regulations and ethical standards. Rehabilitation programs in forensic mental health facilities should integrate sex education and relationship-building skills to help patients develop a healthy understanding of sexuality. These programs aim to reduce reoffending and support the reintegration of individuals into society by promoting responsible and respectful sexual behaviors.

Methods: This study conducts a systematic literature review to comprehend the intricate nature of sexuality and sexual experiences among forensic mental health patients.

Results: Research in this area faces limitations and ethical challenges due to the sensitivity of the topic. Ethical considerations, such as confidentiality and consent, must be meticulously addressed in studies and while providing care to this population.

Conclusions: Understanding the sexuality and sexual experiences of forensic mental health patients is integral to their treatment and rehabilitation. It requires a multifaceted approach that acknowledges the complexities these individuals face due to mental health conditions, personal histories, and the nature of their care environment. Tailored and comprehensive support can promote healthier sexual behaviors, relationships, and overall well-being among this population.

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