

EPV0319

Acute psychosis following corticosteroid administration for COVID-19 and Respiratory Syncytial Virus infection: A case study

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Introduction: Steroids are a necessary treatment for hypoxic respiratory failure; however there are many side effects that should be taken into account. A 44-year-old woman with asthma and no past psychiatric history was admitted due to COVID-19 pneumonia and Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) infection, presenting hypoxic respiratory failure. After two days of intravenous methylprednisolone administration, the patient presented acute psychosis and agitation.

It has been previously described that steroid use can cause effects such as mania, anxiety, agitation, delirium and psychosis amongst other. However they are a necessary treatment in respiratory illnesses and are sometimes unavoidable.

Objectives: The aim was to examine the appropriate medical response to steroid induced psychosis in patients with acute hypoxic failure.

Methods: A bibliographical review was done in PubMed database searching recent cases of steroid induced psychosis using the words ("Steroid", "Psychosis" and "COVID-19").

Results: According to literature, it has been shown that partial or complete reduction of steroid use and/or use of psychotropic has been successfully used to treat steroid induced psychosis. Following the research it was decided to reduce intravenous methylprednisolone dose from 20mg/8h to 20mg/12h and start oral haloperidol 5mg/8h the first 24h and reducing the dose progressively as the patient recovered. After the first 24 hours the patient presented adequate response to steroids as well as partial response to antipsychotic treatment; presenting no further agitation, absence of hallucinations and partial persistence of the persecutory delusion. A couple of days later there was complete remission of the psychotic symptoms and the patient was on the way to recovery from COVID-19 and RSV.

Conclusions: There is evidence that suggests that medications such as steroids used to treat COVID-19 and other respiratory illnesses can lead to psychotic episodes. It is very important to pay attention to possible side effects when treating with steroids and evaluate the patient history as well as suggest having a follow up visit after the hospital discharge.

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared

EPV0320

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on health outcomes in delusional disorder: A systematic review

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Introduction: The health impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has been widely recognized in both physical and mental health. Relatively little attention has been paid to patients with delusional disorder (DD). **Objectives:** Our goal was to synthesize the known mental and physical health consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic in patients diagnosed with DD.

Methods: A systematic review was carried out using the PubMed and Scopus database (2019-October 2022) following the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) statement. Search terms: "delusional disorder" or "delusional disorder" AND "COVID-19 OR SARS-CoV2." Inclusion criteria: 1)DD according to DSM/ICD, 2)languages: English, French, German and Spanish, 3)studies reporting health consequences of COVID-19 pandemic. From a total of 615 records, 6 were included: meta-analysis (n=1), cross-sectional studies (n=2), retrospective study (n=1), case reports (n=2).

Results: A full third of patients with psychosis (including DD) presented with increased psychiatric symptom severity, reportedly activated by increased daily life stress. Suicidal behavior was reported in a previously undiagnosed DD patient in association with a worsening clinical picture. Perhaps surprisingly, admissions for DD in 2020 were lower than in 2019. The duration of hospitalization was, however, longer. There was a report of new onset DD with delusional material centred on COVID. There was also a report of COVID-19 symptoms being more severe in DD patients than in the larger community.

Conclusions: Health emergencies affect the seriously mentally ill more than other community members. Awareness and outreach can help to maintain treatment adherence and minimize risk of psychotic exacerbation.

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EPV0321

The Turkish COVID-19 Anxiety Syndrome Scale: Psychometric validation and association with psychological symptoms

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Introduction: The COVID-19 Anxiety Syndrome Scale (C-19ASS) is a reliable and valid tool developed for assessing unhealthy coping strategies that arise due to fear and threat of COVID-19.