



Longitudinal study at 2 years on the impact of the pandemic on the child and adolescent population cared for in a Spanish province

Marina Adrados-Pérez¹; Vicent Llorca-Boffí¹; Carla Albert-Porcar¹; Eugènia Nicolau-Subires¹; Lucía Ibarra-Pertusa¹; Esther Buil-Reiné¹; Andrea Jiménez-Mayoral¹; Filip Budny¹; Vanessa Velásquez¹; María Mur-Lain¹; María Irigoyen-Otiñano¹

¹ Hospital Universitario Santa María, Lleida.

Palabras clave: Estudio longitudinal, Visitas a urgencias psiquiátricas, Hospitalización infanto-juvenil
Keywords: Longitudinal study, Psychiatric emergency room visits, Child and adolescent hospitalization

Introduction: There are many robust studies that have analyzed the impact of the beginning of the pandemic on the young population, but few longitudinal studies.

Method: The following information was collected from the digital clinical history: during the years 2020, 2021 and 2022 the number of visits to psychiatric emergencies, number of visits to general emergencies, number of visits to the pediatrician, number of admissions in child and adolescent hospitalization. The initial pharmacological treatment in the target episode treated during one of the two alarm states and the current pharmacological treatment were also evaluated, distinguishing the type of medication and its dosage.

Results: 20.4% had not carried out previous follow-up and in the target episode of emergency care, only 68.1% had prescribed some psychoactive drug, this percentage rising to 78.3% at the present time ($p=0.014$). Multivariate logistic regression revealed that the characteristics independently associated with suicidal behavior were being female (OR=2.319 (1.043 to 5.197), $p=0.0041$), having a diagnosis of depression (OR=4.646 (2.178 to 9.912)), $p<0.001$) and no diagnosis on axis I (OR=4.084 (1.432 to 11.722), $p=0.009$). It stands out that in our study up to 38.9% were admitted during the observed period, being more frequent in depressive patients, behavioral alterations and minors without a related diagnosis.

Conclusion: In our longitudinal study, we found that minor patients seen in psychiatric emergencies during the period of confinement due to COVID had a greater number of prescribed psychopharmacological treatments at two years of follow-up, with an increase in antidepressants, antipsychotics, anticonvulsants and noradrenergic treatments.

A esta presentación se le otorgó el 1r premio “Antonio Colodrón” de las Comunicaciones Libres del V Simposio de Psicología y Psiquiatría AÑO 2022

<https://doi.org/10.34810/PsicosomPsiquiatrum230903>