



17TH WORLD CONGRESS ON PUBLIC HEALTH 2023 May 2-6 ROME ITALY

ABSTRACT BOOK



Abstract book by:





ORGANISING COMMITTEE

CMC

The three organising partners of the 17th World Congress on Public Health established a Congress Management Committee (CMC) consisting of representatives of WFPHA, SItI, ASPHER and the PCO. The CMC has the full managerial and financial management responsibility for the Congress.

Chair: Walter Ricciardi

Members:

Luis Eugenio de Souza – WFPHA
 Bettina Borisch – WFPHA
 Marta Lomazzi – WFPHA
 Italo Angelillo – SItI
 Antonio Ferro – SItI
 Roberta Siliquini – SItI
 Carlo Signorelli – ASPHER
 John Middleton – ASPHER
 Robert Otok – ASPHER

ICC

The International Congress Council (ICC) consisted of the Congress Management Committee and international public health experts representing various regions of the WFPHA, international health organisations, European health non-governmental organisations and Italian universities and institutes. The ICC in particular develops, in consultation with the CMC, the scientific programme including subthemes and plenary programme of the WCPH and identify speakers/panellists/moderators of the plenary sessions.

Chair: Walter Ricciardi

Members:

Mohannad Al Nsour (Jordan)
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ISC

The International Scientific Committee (ISC) consists of experienced public health experts from around the world nominated by WFPHA, SItI and Aspher. It mainly advises the ICC on scientific matters of the conference and contributes to the scientific evaluation of the conference. We would like to thank the ISC for their support.

Aim & Scope

Population Medicine is an open-access double-blind peer-reviewed scientific journal that encompasses all aspects of population, preventive, and public health research including health care systems and health care delivery. Its broader goal is to address major and diverse health issues, to provide evidence-based information to professionals at all levels of the health care system, and to inform policymakers who are responsible for the formation of health policies that can lead to evidence-based actions.

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interviews were conducted. This study shows that migrants who are unable to attend the mourning ceremony of their family members for various reasons, including asylum or restrictions of the COVID-19, attempt to fill this gap by using social networks and communication platforms. According to this study, online platform is a place to meet and visit families after a long time but there are some limits such as not being able to hug and cry with family members and inability of emotional emojis for express feelings. Online grieving is an opportunity to move from intrapersonal to interpersonal communication that may facilitate the completion of grieving tasks.

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Overdose deaths and the covid-19 pandemic in british columbia, canada

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Background: British columbia (bc) declared an overdose public health emergency in 2016. Since then, bc has consistently reported the highest overdose death rates of any province in canada. In the context of the covid-19 pandemic, overdose deaths in bc reached a record high in 2020. This analysis reports on changes in the profile of people who have died of overdose since bc's declaration of covid-19 as a public health emergency on march 17th 2020.

Methods: Using bc coroners service data, chi-square tests and multivariable logistic regression were conducted to compare demographic, geographic, and post-mortem toxicology data between people who died of overdose before (march 17th- december 31st 2019) and after (march 17th- december 31st 2020) bc's declaration of covid-19 as a public health emergency.

Results: Overdose deaths observed since march 17th 2020 (n=1516) more than doubled those observed in the same period in 2019 (n=744). In the adjusted logistic regression model, odds of death in the post compared to pre-covid-19 period was significantly higher among males compared to females, among all older age groups compared to people aged 30-39, and was higher outside compared to in private residences.

Conclusions: Alongside a significant increase in overdose deaths, the demographics of people who have died of overdose has changed since march 2020. Ongoing overdose prevention efforts must seek to reach people who remain most isolated, including older adults, who during dual public health emergencies are facing compounded risk of preventable mortality.

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Etiological and prognostic roles of socioeconomic characteristics in the development of sars-cov-2 infection and related severe health outcomes: systematic review of population-based studies

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Physiology, Infectiology and Public Health, Ghent University, Merelbeke, Belgium, ¹²Universidade de Lisboa Instituto de Saúde Ambiental, Faculdade de Medicina, Universidade de Lisboa, Lisboa, Portugal / Área Disciplinar Autónoma de Bioestatística, Faculdade de Medicina, Universidade de Lisboa, Lisboa, Portugal, ¹³Instituto de Salud Carlos III, REDISSEC and RICAPPS National Center of Epidemiology, Instituto de Salud Carlos III, REDISSEC and RICAPPS, Madrid, Spain

Background and Objective: There is growing evidence on the role of biomedical factors and socioeconomic status in increasing vulnerability to COVID-19. We conducted a systematic review to investigate the etiological and prognostic roles of multimorbidity, frailty and socioeconomic determinants in COVID-19 outcomes severity among population-representative samples. This presentation focuses on socioeconomic determinants.

Methods: The following databases were searched: PubMed, Embase, WHO COVID-19 Global literature on coronavirus disease and PsycINFO between January 2020 and 7th April 2021. For the etiological role of socioeconomic determinants, the following outcomes were of interest: infection, hospitalisation, ICU admission, mechanical ventilation and mortality. For the prognostic role, we investigated hospitalization for COVID-19, ICU admission, mechanical ventilation, death, functional decline, quality of life, disability, mental health difficulties, work absence.

Results: Out of 9 701 reviewed titles and 411 articles read in full-text, 78 studies reporting on socioeconomic characteristics met the eligibility criteria and were included in the final synthesis. 47 studies reported on the etiological role, 24 studies reported on the prognostic role, and 7 reported on both. No studies reported on long term effects of socioeconomic determinants. Only short term COVID-19 related outcomes, such as COVID-19 infections, mortality, ICU admission, hospitalization etc. were identified. Data was often retrieved using administrative and hospital records. The evidence suggests that worse health outcomes were often seen in black and Asian populations, and associated with lower education level and higher deprivation score. Most of the studies cover populations in the United States and the United Kingdom.

Conclusions: The risk of severe short-term COVID-19 outcomes increase with socioeconomic vulnerability and among certain ethnic groups. There is a need for more evidence on the role of socioeconomic characteristics in short-term and long-term COVID-19 outcomes in other European, Asian and African countries. Future research should target specific races and ethnic groups.

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Interviewing the interviewers: capturing oral histories and other qualitative evidence to describe the impact of covid-19 contact tracing

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Background and Objective: Contact tracing was a crucial component of the public health response to prevent the spread of COVID-19, albeit a time-consuming activity requiring many human and technical resources. Maryland contact tracers provided vital assistance to COVID-19 patients and close contacts. The purpose of this evaluation was to capture qualitative aspects of COVID-19 contact tracing to document impact (e.g., stories describing experiences contact tracers had while interacting with cases and close contacts).

Methods: We conducted semi-structured qualitative interviews with 14 contact tracers from various counties in Maryland via videoconference. We collected information about why they became contact tracers, explored the impacts they had on cases and close contacts, and captured the memorable experiences, challenges, and rewarding parts of contact tracing. Themes and quotes were manually coded from interview transcripts and analyzed manually using the classic method of qualitative data analysis.

Results: Data analyses revealed themes including altruism, being a source of support, being overwhelmed, satisfaction in closing cases, and interest in continuing a career in public health. Most participants indicated they became contact tracers to help fight the pandemic. Contact tracers recalled experiences of calling 911 for clients over the phone and sometimes being the last and only



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