REMISSION AND QUALITY OF LIFE OF PATIENTS WITH BREAST CANCER

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Introduction: Breast cancer is the most common malignancy in women. Modern research attempts to investigate the relationship between psychoemotional parameters and the length of survival of breast cancer patients. Understanding the factors which affect a higher level of resilience can have important clinical implications and can represent a guiding principle for designing psychological interventions that would accelerate recovery and improve the quality of life of cancer patients. To explore the relationship between resilience and quality of life of women with breast cancer.

Methods: The study was conducted at the Clinic of Oncology of the University Clinical Hospital Mostar, which included 60 subjects. Objective realization was achieved through using the socio-demographic questionnaire purposely made for this research, the quality of life questionnaire WHQOL-BREF and the psychological resilience questionnaire CD-RISC-25.

Results: Subjects treated with radiotherapy achieved statistically significantly higher scores on subscales of the quality of life: mental health, social relations, and the environment. No statistically significant correlations were found between the level of resilience and results in the domains of quality of life.

Conclusion: There is not a statistically significant association between resilience levels and quality of life in patients with breast cancer.

Key words: resilience - quality of life - breast cancer

PHANTOM EARTHQUAKE SYNDROME - A PILOT STUDY AFTER ZAGREB AND BANOVINA 2020 EARTHQUAKE

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Impact of earthquake on mental health is well-documented globally. A number of earthquake survivors after Zagreb and Banovina earthquake in the year 2020 reported a phenomenon of phantom earthquake. Telephone pilot study on phantom earthquake symptoms was conducted with semi-structured interview in earthquake survivors. Phantom earthquake is manifested as a false sense of earthquake-motion, accompanied with vegetative and motor symptoms with psychological distress and behavioral change that interfere with expected daily functioning. We propose an operational model for the phantom earthquake syndrome and discuss possible underlying neurobiological mechanisms to be further investigated in studying of the phantom earthquake syndrome.

Key words: earthquake - distress - motion
CARDIAC SYMPTOMS THROUGH THE LENS OF A PSYCHODYNAMICS APPROACH: A CASE REPORT OF MYOCARDIAL INFARCTION

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Despite having been in focus of psychodynamic perspectives for many decades, coronary symptoms are still a clinical challenge. We postulate a psychodynamic approach in a case of Mr. V who presented with non-ST-elevation myocardial infarction (MI) at University Hospital Centre Zagreb. Mr. V described a traumatic childhood with out-of-home foster placement with grandparents as caregivers. He often witnessed grandmothers cardiac problems. Due to academic misfortune, he started to work at a construction site from an early age, and during the interview described building his family house in depth. Recent admonition from his investor was understood as a trigger for cardiac symptoms. We analyze possible psychological etiological mechanisms observed in this patient for MI development.

ANXIETY OF PATIENTS AT MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING SCREENING

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Introduction: Anxiety is a state of feeling helpless and insecure, a state of anticipation and concern that something bad will happen. Fear of pain and the unknown, as well as fear of screening results can increase anxiety. Severe anxiety during magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) can cause patient’s movement, leading to poorer imaging and reduction in the quality of the diagnostic test. To determine the anxiety of patients before and after magnetic resonance imaging and to investigate the relationship between the tested anxiety and the socio-demographic characteristics of the patients.

Methods: The study was conducted at the Department of Radiology of the University Clinical Hospital Mostar in the period from February 1st 2020 to March 31st 2020. The study included 100 subjects who were prescribed an MRI screening at the time of the study. A socio-demographic questionnaire specifically designed for this study was used to obtain data on subjects such as gender, age, place of residence, smoking, drinking alcohol, economic status, religiosity. The Anxiety Questionnaire as a State-Trait Anxiety Inventory (STAI) was used to examine anxiety.

Results: A statistically significantly higher degree of anxiety was determined after MRI screening (p<0.001). Male subjects achieved a statistically significantly higher degree of anxiety before (p=0.019) and after (p=0.034) MRI screening. There were no statistically significant correlations between the age of the subjects and the results achieved on the anxiety tests before and after the MRI screening.

Conclusion: Subjects who were prescribed an MRI screening have a statistically significantly higher degree of anxiety after the screening. Male subjects had a statistically significantly higher degree of anxiety on MRI screening.

Key words: anxiety - magnetic resonance

THE ROLE OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS IN THE PREVENTION AND EARLY DETECTION OF CANCER IN HERZEGOVINA-NERETVA AND WEST-HERZEGOVINA CANTON

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Background: This study aimed to investigate and analyze the role of family physicians (FPs) in counseling and encouraging early cancer prevention, their perception of value systems towards health and disease