



International Conference on

# **PSYCHOLOGY AND MENTAL HEALTH**

November 22-23, 2021 | Dubai, UAE

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International Conference on  
**Psychology and Mental Health**

November 22-23, 2021 | Dubai, UAE

*Theme: Explore the evolution in Psychology and Mental Health*

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***Jorma Virtanen***

University of Turku, Finland and University of Bergen  
Norway

**Co-Chair**

***Norm O'Rourke***

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev  
Israel

**Moderator**

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Public Health Protection Department,  
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***Shivam Kaushik***

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## Table of Contents

Contents	Page no.
<b>Day 01</b>	
About Scientex .....	5
Scientific Program .....	7
Keynote Forum .....	13
Oral Presentation .....	16
<b>Day 02</b>	
Keynote Forum .....	27
Oral Presentation .....	30
Poster Presentation .....	36
Video Presentation .....	38
E-Poster .....	40
Accepted Abstracts .....	42
Upcoming conferences .....	46

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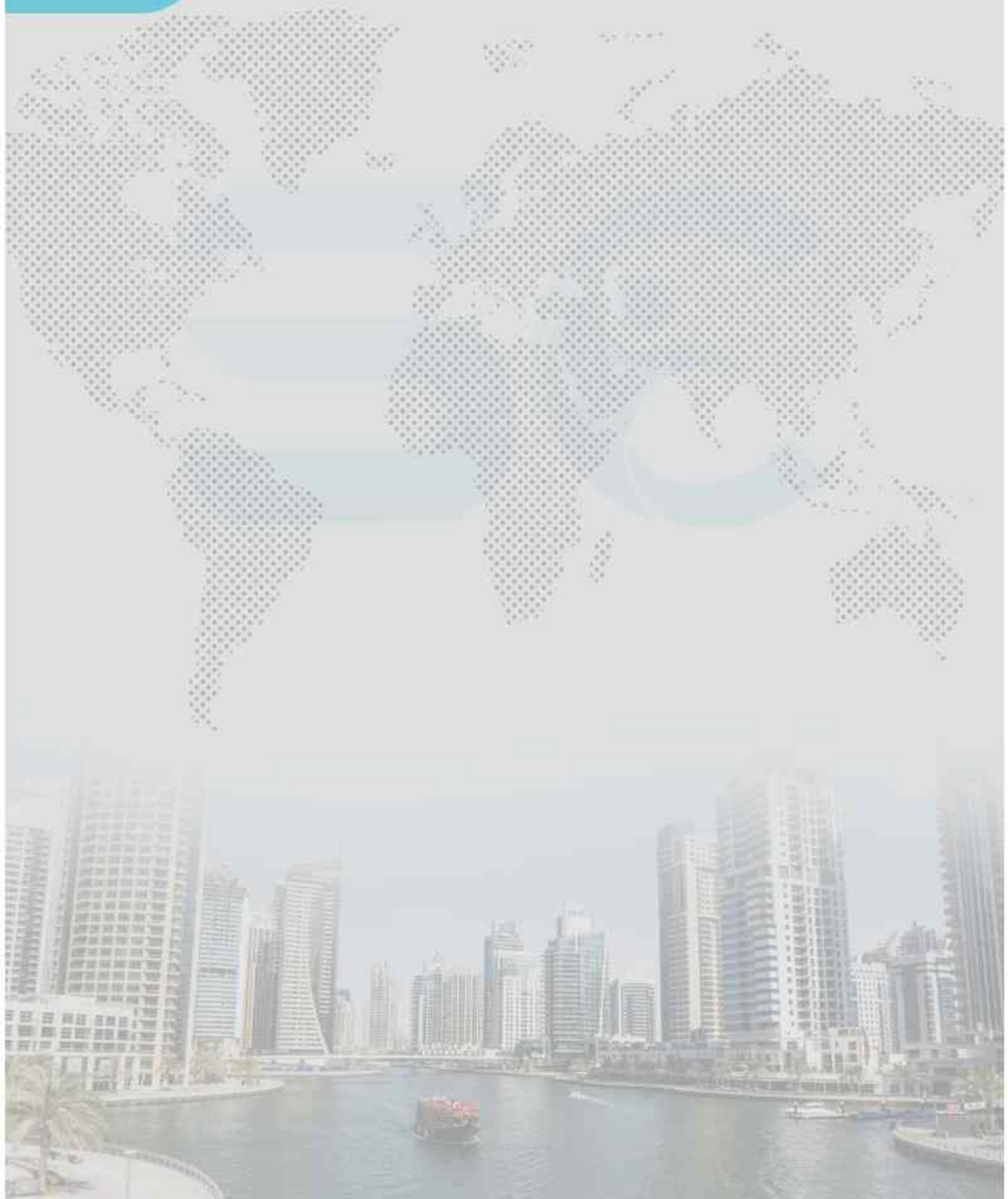
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# SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM



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**International Conference on Psychology and Mental Health  
November 22-23, 2021 | Dubai, UAE**

**Day 01 (November 22, 2021)**

09:55–10:00	<b>Introduction</b>
<b>Keynote Forum</b>	
10:00–10:45	<b>Title: Recognizing emotional trauma and thriving</b>
	<b>Agnieszka Wilczynska</b> , American University, UAE
10:45–11:30	<b>Title: Dental fear and eating disorders and BMI among university students</b>
	<b>Jorma Virtanen</b> , University of Turku, Finland and University of Bergen, Norway
11:30–11:50	<b>Break and Refreshment</b>
<b>Sessions: Psychology   Mental Health</b>	
11:50–12:20	<b>Title: Artificial Intelligence In estimating mental illnesses</b>
	<b>Kadhim Alabady</b> , Public Health Protection Department, UAE
12:20–12:50	<b>Title: The inequities of mental health research funding</b>
	<b>Danielle Kemmer</b> , Vice President, Graham Boeckh Foundation and Executive Director, International Alliance of Mental Health Research Funders, Canada
12:50–13:50	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>Sessions: Stress, anxiety and depression   Bipolar disorder   Psychology</b>	
13:50–14:20	<b>Title: Hope during COVID-19 lockdown</b>
	<b>Dorit Redlich Amirav, Israel Amirav</b> , Occupational Therapy Department, Tel Aviv University, Israel
14:20–14:50	<b>Title: Perceived cognitive failures and quality of life for older adults with bipolar disorder</b>
	<b>Norm O'Rourke</b> , Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel
14:50–15:20	<b>Title: Socio-cultural standards promoted by the mass media as predictors of restrictive and bulimic behavior</b>
	<b>Agnieszka Wilczynska</b> , American University, UAE
15:20- 15:40	<b>Break and Refreshment</b>

<b>Sessions: Psychology   Obesity and Eating disorder</b>	
15:40–16:10	<b>Title : Aggression and psychological distress in male and female anabolic-androgenic steroid users: A multigroup latent class analysis</b> Razleh Chegeni, University Of Bergen, Norway
16:10–16:40	<b>Title: What is the role of football psychology?</b> Kadhim Alabady, Public Health Protection Department, UAE
16:40–17:10	<b>Title: Drosophila central taste circuits in health and obesity</b> Pinky Kain, Regional Center for Biotechnology, India
17:10–17:40	<b>Title: Educational tools and methodological approaches to enhance interest and to grow skills in the teaching learning of the earth sciences: A research in the Italian schools</b> Susanna Occhipinti, Italy
<b>Conclusion of Day 01</b>	
<b>B2B meetings &amp; Panel discussions</b>	
<b>Day 02 (November 23, 2021)</b>	
<b>Keynote Forum</b>	
10:00–10:45	<b>Title: Students on health and social care programmes mental health: The role and experiences of faculty staff</b> Pras Ramluggun, Oxford Brookes University, United Kingdom
10:45–11:30	<b>Title: How the brain creates the mind</b> Nada Pop-Jordanova, Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Macedonia
11:30–11:50	<b>Break and Refreshment</b>
<b>Sessions: Stress, anxiety and Depression   Addiction</b>	
11:50–12:20	<b>Title: Psychological Impact of COVID-19 in Panama</b> Ericka Matus, Universidad Especializada de las Américas, Republic of Panama
12:20–12:50	<b>Title: Socio-demographic characteristics and other factors associated with depressive illness among medical students at the University of Port Harcourt</b> Aborlo Kennedy Nkporbu, Consultant Neuropsychiatrist, Nigeria
12:50–13:50	<b>Lunch</b>



13:50-14:20	<b>Title: Does religiosity protect us from emotional crisis during COVID-19 pandemic – a cross sectional study among students</b>
	<b>Alicja Forma</b> , Medical University of Lublin, Poland
14:20-14:50	<b>Title: Harnessing the unspeakable: Effect of using creative methodological tools to help patients speak about their emotions during psychotherapy</b>
	<b>Doha M Abualsaud</b> , University of Exeter, Saudi Arabia
<b>Poster Presentation</b>	
PMH001	<b>Title: Starvation and activity dependent modulation of salt taste behavior in drosophila</b>
	<b>Shivam Kaushik</b> , Regional Center for Biotechnology, India
<b>Video Presentation</b>	
PMH002	<b>Title: Business process versus human resources performance</b>
	<b>Jozef Stašák</b> , University of Economy, Slovak Republic
<b>E-Poster</b>	
PMH003	<b>Title: On fitness to plead: When the accused is speech-less</b>
	<b>Kok Keong, Leong</b> , Neuropsychiatry, Cygnet Brunel, United Kingdom



International Conference on **Psychology and Mental Health**

International Conference on

# PSYCHOLOGY AND MENTAL HEALTH

November 22-23, 2021 | Dubai, UAE

**Day 1** **Keynote Speakers**



<b>KEYNOTE SPEAKERS</b>
<b>Title: Recognizing and thriving emotional trauma</b> <b>Agnieszka Wilczynska</b> , American University, UAE
<b>Title: Dental fear and eating disorders and BMI among university students</b> <b>Jorma Virtanen</b> , University of Turku, Finland and University of Bergen, Norway
<b>ORAL PRESENTATIONS</b>
<b>Sessions: Psychology   Mental Health</b>
<b>Title: Artificial Intelligence In estimating mental illnesses</b> <b>Kadhim Alabady</b> , Public Health Protection Department, UAE
<b>Title: The Inequities of mental health research funding</b> <b>Danielle Kemmer</b> , Vice President, Graham Boeckh Foundation and Executive Director, International Alliance of Mental Health Research Funders, Canada
<b>Sessions: Stress, anxiety and depression   Bipolar disorder   Psychology</b>
<b>Title: Hope during COVID-19 lockdown</b> <b>Dorit Redlich Amirav, Israel Amirav</b> , Occupational Therapy Department, Tel Aviv University, Israel
<b>Title: Perceived cognitive failures and quality of life for older adults with bipolar disorder</b> <b>Norm O'Rourke</b> , Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel
<b>Title: Socio-cultural standards promoted by the mass media as predictors of restrictive and bulimic behavior</b> <b>Agnieszka Wilczynska</b> , American University, UAE
<b>Sessions: Psychology   Obesity and Eating disorder</b>
<b>Title: Aggression and psychological distress in male and female anabolic-androgenic steroid users: A multigroup latent class analysis</b> <b>Razleh Chegeni</b> , University Of Bergen, Norway
<b>Title: What is the role of football psychology?</b> <b>Kadhim Alabady</b> , Public Health Protection Department, UAE
<b>Title: Drosophila central taste circuits in health and obesity</b> <b>Pinky Kain</b> , Regional Center for Biotechnology, India
<b>Title: Educational tools and methodological approaches to enhance interest and to grow skills in the teaching learning of the earth sciences: A research in the Italian schools</b> <b>Susanna Occhipinti</b> , Italy

## Recognizing emotional trauma and thriving



*Agnieszka Wilczynska*

*American University, UAE*

### ABSTRACT

The notion of transgenerational trauma is becoming increasingly popular. In this framework, trauma is conceptualised as a process in which anxieties and pain are transmitted to descendants by the generations which were directly exposed to suffering during war or other traumatic events. The Polish scholars argue that almost the whole of the Polish nation is traumatised as a result of the experiences of WW1 and WW2, and that our local history can indeed explain why Poles are pessimistic, have a negative mindset and do not trust others. The main statistical tool in the study was provided by Structural Equation Modeling (SEM), specifically by its variety referred to as Path Analysis (PA), which exclusively takes into account pointer variables (without latent variables). There were more than 300 young people from Polish schools studied regarding to psychological conditions (self-esteem, anger, sense of belonging, sense of exclusion, empathy, ways of coping with stress). In cluster analysis one "no risk" group and three "at risk" groups were identified as:

- the socially included youth
- the invisible kids
- the rejected, frozen and needy youth
- the "unneedy" loiters.

Path analysis aimed to establish what coping conditions are and what strategies are applied by young people in the "at risk" groups as listed above. The second part of the research was an experimental longitudinal study was carried out in clinical conditions on a sample of adolescents experienced emotional trauma. Sixty F91- and F92-diagnosed teenagers were recruited to the research sample. All of them had experienced strong exclusion from their environments, first at their homes and families, and then in school and community systems. The participants were divided into three groups (2 experimental groups & 1 control group) Each of the experimental groups had different therapeutic interventions. Research findings implied that emotionally excluded adolescents find it challenging to learn co-feeling and care for the self and others. The novel good emotional experiences were not registered for long in the memories of the participants. On the contrary, the experimental group subjects responded in the opposite way, as if mobilising forces to remove the new experiences the way viruses are removed from the infected body and proliferating "immunological bodies" to trigger the body's enhanced defence reaction. Thereby, they buttressed their prior negative beliefs about themselves. The information and experiences concerning them being valuable, important and appreciated people with whom others were eager to spend their time and to whom other offered their attention were not only ignored but actually driven away with a tremendous force.

### SPEAKER PROFILE:

Agnieszka Wilczyńska is the lecturer at the American University in Dubai and at the WSB University in Poland. She is the author of 3 books and more than 120 articles. Agnieszka is licensed Clinical Psychologist in UAE and she carries out regular clinical practice. She is a certified Psychotherapist of the European Association for Integrative Psychotherapy (Vienna, Austria). She is also TEDx speaker and visiting professor at University of Verona, Bradford College, University of Minnesota and some others. She has founded and serves as President of the Zimbardo Youth Center, leads the Heroic Imagination Project (PL). Her work revolves mainly on the topic of the psychology of emotional exclusion, the sense of social rejection and loneliness in our societies nowadays. Her new book 'Multidisciplinary perspectives on the psychology of exclusion: From rejection to personal and social harmony' (2020), Routledge offers insights from perspectives of psychological and biochemical research - explaining the role of the brain, mind and body in the development of a sense of belonging.

## Dental fear and eating disorders and BMI among university students



*Jorma Virtanen*

*University of Turku, Finland and University of Bergen, Norway*

### ABSTRACT

High dental fear with irregular dental attendance has long been a widespread dental health topic worldwide. We studied the association between dental fear and Eating Disorders (ED) through Body Mass Index (BMI) and SCOFF questionnaire among Finnish University students. The latest data from the Finnish University student health survey was utilized. The health survey targeted in total 10'000 Finnish undergraduate students of the universities. The study enquired about age, gender, height, weight, educational sector, and perceived mental well-being. The SCOFF questionnaire assessed those at risk for developing EDs. The question 'Do you feel scared about dental care?' enquired about dental fear. Of the students 7.2% reported high dental fear and 9.2% scored SCOFF positive. Women reported significantly more high dental fear than men and scored positive on SCOFF. Gender modified the association between dental fear and EDs and BMI. Overweight and obese males and females with poor mental well-being were more likely to have high dental fear. In conclusion, BMI in males and problems of mental well-being in females were associated with high dental fear among the university students. The results of the study support possible common vulnerability factors that dental fear and other psychological disorders may share.

### SPEAKER PROFILE:

Jorma Virtanen is a professor of dentistry at the University of Turku, Finland and University of Bergen, Norway. His research interests are within health promotion, public health, and oral health. He has about 200 publications that have been cited over 2500 times, and his publication h-index is 31. He has been serving as an editorial board member of several reputed scientific journals.

International Conference on

# PSYCHOLOGY AND MENTAL HEALTH

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**Day 1** Oral Presentations



# Artificial intelligence in estimating mental illnesses

*Kadhim Alabady*

*Public Health Protection Department, UAE*

## ABSTRACT

**Background:** Mental health is without doubt one of the most vital aspects of any child's development. It is an essential part of children's overall health and has an impact on the child's physical health and their ability to be successful. Mental health increases children's opportunity to live up to their full potential and do what is best for themselves and the people around them.

**Purpose:** To estimate the expected number of children or adults with mental disorder through.

**Method:** In order to carry out this assessment we applied qualitative modeling (Artificial intelligence approach) and quantitative methodology.

### Key findings:

- Artificial intelligence can be used as a tool to measure the differences level of actual registered cases with ASD and compared with the expected cases with foe a general population.
- Annual birth figures can be applied to estimate the risk of developing Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) in future.
- Studies of eating disorders are so effective to determine the needs of required services for girls aged 13–19 years affected with anorexia nervosa and bulimia nervosa.
- An estimated 5% of children and 2.5% of adults have ADHD. ADHD is often first identified in school-aged children when it leads to disruption in the classroom or problems with schoolwork. These figures can be applied to assess the expected number of people with ADH in the community.
- Applying the postnatal depression prevalence rates (10–15%) to the number of annual total live births or pregnancies in estimating postnatal depression among women.

## SPEAKER PROFILE:

Fellow of the Faculty of Public Health UK (FFPH) and Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow (FRCP – Glasgow). Hold a Doctorate degree in Public Health and Epidemiology, Master degree in Clinical Epidemiology (MSc), Master degree in Public Health (MPH), all from The Netherlands Universities with broad experience driving Research and Development (R&D) strategies and operations. Worked in Public Health since 1999 at different levels such as Academic (Erasmus university – Rotterdam / The Netherlands, Queen Marry University – London / UK), University of East Anglia UEA / Norwich, International (United Nations), National Health Authority (Qatar), National Health Service (NHS), UK, Dubai Health Authority and Others. Registered as Epidemiologist Grade A with The Netherlands Epidemiological Society. Has numerous publications in the UK in mental illnesses, cancer, cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, Dementia, Autism, COPD, Ophthalmology, population health, road casualties, infectious diseases, vaccination, and others.



# The inequities of mental health research funding

*Danielle Kemmer*

*Vice President, Graham Boeckh Foundation and Executive Director,  
International Alliance of Mental Health Research Funders, Canada*

## ABSTRACT

The International Alliance of Mental Health Research Funders (IAMHRF) was founded to increase the impact of research investments. It offers a neutral, non-political, non-judgemental platform for global collaboration between research funders and builds bridges to other key stakeholders and global initiatives to help create an integrated mental health ecosystem. Its diverse membership makes it a unique alliance, and one that is ideally placed to develop a more equitable and impactful mental health research agenda. Through targeted initiatives, the IAMHRF drives critical progress in the mental health sector with a focus on diversity, inclusivity and cultural and geographical suitability. Current focus areas include:

- Common measures – We host a community of mental health research funders, academic publishers and data measurement experts committed to adopting common measures in mental health science.
- Lived experience – We promote and support the inclusion of people with lived experience throughout the research pipeline, from priority setting to conducting the research itself.
- Mapping funding – We conduct studies on the global landscape of mental health research funding to inform priority setting, future investments and policy-making.

The IAMHRF recently provided a first comprehensive measurement of global mental health research funding and identified how much is being spent, in what areas and by whom. Analyzing over 75,000 research grants awarded by nearly 350 funders from over 35 countries, the study paints a stark picture of a number of inequities that characterize global funding behaviour.

- Only a small proportion of mental health research funding is currently spent in low-and middle-income countries and funding levels have been stagnating over the last 5 years.
- There is significant underfunding of mental health research relative to other (physical) diseases.
- The majority of research funded is basic, such as neuroscience, as opposed to clinical/applied.
- Research tends to focus on adults, not youth or seniors.
- Specific fields of mental health research – notably self-harm and suicide, eating, conduct, obsessive compulsive and personality disorders – are relatively underfunded compared to other fields such as substance use and dependence, and depression.

## SPEAKER PROFILE:

Danielle Kemmer is Vice-President, Strategy and Initiatives, at the Graham Boeckh Foundation and Executive Director of the International Alliance of Mental Health Research Funders. Her interest is in promoting collaboration and unity within the mental health sector. With her background in research and research management, she has been instrumental in strengthening ties between the research community and key mental health stakeholders globally.

# Hope during COVID-19 lockdown

*Dorit Redlich Amirav, Israel Amirav*

*Occupational Therapy Department, Tel Aviv University, Israel*

## ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** The COVID-19 pandemic has changed daily life in unexpected ways including strict lockdowns periods that may shape hope.

**Method:** This study compared hope levels among an online sample of 584 adults in late April 2020 during the COVID-19 lockdown (2020 survey) to 884 adult internet users who participated in the 2019 Hope Barometer survey which was performed six months prior to the COVID-19 pandemic (2019 survey). Both surveys used identical validated hope and depression measures.

**Results:** Despite high degrees of depression, hope levels slightly but significantly increased in the 2020 survey compared to the 2019 survey. Differences between the 2019 and 2020 surveys appeared across all demographic groups, with no differences related to age, sex, or education.

**Conclusions:** Despite the increased depression, the COVID-19 lockdown was associated with significantly higher hope levels.

## SPEAKER PROFILE:

**Dorit Redlich Amirav:** For the past 20 years I have been a community occupational therapist working with family members of people with mental illnesses. For five years I served as the Israel national coordinator for an annual psycho-educational intervention for family members to enhance their communication and coping skills. I have extensive experience in supervising community mental health professionals and I have directed a few adult community mental health hostels. In my master's degree in occupational therapy, I studied hope in family members of mentally ill children, before and after a psycho-educational intervention. I developed an in-depth passion to know more about hope. In 2012 I started my PhD program in the Rehabilitation Science Faculty at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada and have studied experiences of hope among Palestinian and Israeli mothers of adult children with mental illnesses in the context of a socio-political conflict. In 2017, I became the coordinator of rehabilitation graduate studies in mental health Occupational Therapy Department, Tel Aviv University in Israel. My teaching courses include evidence-based intervention for mental health, recovery studies, and hope.

**Israel Amirav:** Amirav is a pediatric pulmonologist and clinician-researcher for almost 40 years. Over the years he has built his reputation as a world leader in various pediatric respiratory fields including >140 publications, worldwide presentations, and various patented innovations to help infants and young children with asthma and other illnesses better receive their necessary respiratory medications. These innovations have found their ways to hospitals clinics and homes worldwide. Recently he is actively involved in various global health projects including few studies to evaluate hope during difficult times.

# Perceived cognitive failures and quality of life for older adults with bipolar disorder

*Norm O'Rourke*

*Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel*

## ABSTRACT

Older adults with Bipolar Disorder (BD) commonly present with cognitive deficits (e.g., attention, memory, verbal fluency). Concomitantly, older adults with BD commonly report subjective or perceived cognitive failures. For this study, we confirmed a 3-factor model of cognitive failures first validated with older adults free of mental illness (i.e., forgetfulness, distractibility, false triggering). We then computed a Structural Equation Model (SEM) demonstrating the construct validity of perceived cognitive errors in relation to quality of life with BD. Use of SEM enabled us to measure quality of life broadly and germane to BD (i.e., well-being, life satisfaction, alcohol misuse, sleep quality). We obtained responses from an international sample of 350 older adults with BD (M = 61.26 years of age, range 50-87), recruited via micro-targeted social media advertising. Most lived in Canada, the U.S., U.K., Ireland, Australia and South Africa. As hypothesized, perceived cognitive failures were predicted by BD symptoms (depression and hypo/mania). And cognitive failures directly and indirectly predicted quality of life. Future research is needed to replicate this QoL model over time with younger patients and those recruited using more traditional methods. Perceived cognitive failures may not be strongly correlated with objective indices of cognitive deficits; Nonetheless perceived cognitive failures are significantly associated with quality of life for older adults with BD. For both cognitive errors and BD symptoms, their indirect effect on quality of life (via suicide ideation) is greater than the direct effect.

## SPEAKER PROFILE:

Norm O'Rourke is a clinical psychologist and full professor with Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Be'er Sheva, Israel (Department of Public Health). He is also founding director of the Foundation for Wellness with Bipolar Disorder, he sat on the executive board of the society for Clinical Geropsychology (American Psychological Association) and the Mental Health Commission of Canada. Prof. O'Rourke is currently an associate editor of *Aging and Mental Health*. He has been awarded \$1.8M in research funding as principal applicant (\$4.6M as part of teams).

# Socio-cultural standards promoted by the mass media as predictors of restrictive and bulimic behavior

*Agnieszka Wilczyńska*

*American University, UAE*

## ABSTRACT

Research lacks in verifying the nature of the relationship between mass media pressure, body image, and the risk of unhealthy eating behaviors. This study aimed to investigate whether the internalization of sociocultural norms, perceived pressure or searching for information about body image promoted by the mass media directly affect restrictive and bulimic behavior toward eating, through the mediating role of body image and physical appearance variables. The research hypotheses were that (1, 2) body image, the pressure and the internalization of sociocultural norms are significant predictors of unhealthy eating behavior among women and men; and (3) the variables related to body image play the role of the mediating variable between the impact of socio-cultural standards of body image promoted by the mass media and unhealthy eating behavior. The sample comprised 514 Polish men and women, aged 16 to 63 old (men  $M=24.35$ ;  $SD=13.53$ ; women  $M=24.77$ ;  $SD=7.61$ ), with average Body Mass Index (BMI). Assessment comprised the Sociocultural Attitudes Toward Appearance Scale (SATAQ-3), Eating Disorders Inventory (EDI 3), The Multidimensional Body-Self Relations Questionnaire (MBSRQ-AS), and the author's survey questionnaire. The descriptive and comparative statistics, and a path analysis (structural equations modeling) were applied. The statistical analysis showed that the variables related to body image do not play the role of intermediary variables. The pressure of sociocultural standards of body image and physical appearance had the strongest and most direct effect on the development of restrictive eating behavior and appeared to negatively affect body image in women. The search of information on body image in the mass media had the strongest and most direct impact on the development of bulimic eating behavior among women. However, only the global internalization of sociocultural standards of body image and physical appearance had a significant and direct effect on the development of bulimic eating behavior in men. Moreover, the internalization of athletic body shape standards had the strongest and most positive impact on some aspects of body image in this group. No sociocultural variables showed a direct impact on restrictive behavior among studied men. BMI had a positive and direct impact on individual body part satisfaction. These results may help improve prevention of eating disorders and dysfunctional eating behavior.

## SPEAKER PROFILE:

Agnieszka Wilczyńska is the lecturer at the American University in Dubai and at the WSB University in Poland. She is the author of 3 books and more than 120 articles. Agnieszka is licensed clinical psychologist in UAE and she carries out regular clinical practice. She is a certified psychotherapist of the European Association for Integrative Psychotherapy (Vienna, Austria). She is also TEDx speaker and visiting professor at University of Verona, Bradford College, University of Minnesota and some others. She has founded and serves as president of the Zimbardo Youth Center, leads the Heroic Imagination Project (PL). Her work revolves mainly on the topic of the psychology of emotional exclusion, the sense of social rejection and loneliness in our societies nowadays. Her new book 'Multidisciplinary perspectives on the psychology of exclusion: From rejection to personal and social harmony' (2020), Routledge offers insights from perspectives of psychological and biochemical research - explaining the role of the brain, mind and body in the development of a sense of belonging.

# Aggression and psychological distress in male and female anabolic-androgenic steroid users: A multigroup latent class analysis

*Razieh Chegeni*

*University of Bergen, Norway*

## ABSTRACT

The relationship between Anabolic-Androgenic Steroid (AAS) use and aggression and psychological distress requires further elucidation. No previous study has examined whether the latent patterns of aggression and psychological distress are the same in male and female AAS users. Multigroup Latent Class Analysis (MLCA) can be used to classify individuals into groups based on their responses on a set of variables, and to investigate measurement invariance across subgroups. We therefore conducted a MLCA to identify discrete subgroups of aggression and psychological distress in AAS users, and used measurement invariance to examine whether the identified subgroups can be applied to both sexes. We also examined the relationship between sex and subgroup belongingness. The sample comprised 206 AAS users (females = 58.30%) aged 14 to 56 (mean = 26.86, SD = 7.12 years). They completed questionnaires assessing demographics, AAS use, aggression, and psychological distress. Based on the MLCA, five subgroups were identified: High Aggression Moderate Distress users (HAMoD: 07.63%), moderate aggression distress users (18.64%), moderate direct aggression-mild indirect aggression moderate distress users (22.95%), mild direct aggression-moderate indirect aggression-distress users (11.71%), and Low Aggression Mild Distress users (LAMiD: 39.06%). Although a homogenous five-class solution was the best model for both sexes, sex was significantly associated with the probability of subgroup membership. In particular, members of the HAMoD subgroup were more likely to be male whereas members of the LAMiD subgroup were more likely to be female. Our study provides novel empirical evidence of the idiosyncratic patterns of aggression and psychological distress among male and female AAS users.

## SPEAKER PROFILE:

Razieh Chegeni works as a researcher at the department psychosocial sciences at the University of Bergen. She has a PhD on anabolic-androgenic steroid use and aggression. Her research background includes behavioral addictions, aggression and violence, personality (Dark Triad), evolutionary psychology (mate preferences and mate retention)

# What is the role of football psychology?

*Kadhim Alabady*

*Public Health Protection Department, UAE*

## ABSTRACT

**Background:** Football psychology can help footballers to train with more focus, play with more confidence. This helps them improving their mind, concentration and leadership skills. Many teams appoint a psychologist to improve team and individual performance. Football psychologists can support footballers to cope with the stress and frustration during the games and to prevent injuries and prepare players who are back from injuries into playing.

**Purpose:** This study aims to identify:

- Role of psychologist within a football team.
- Does a football team require a psychologist or a psychiatrist?
- What are the most common mental issues among football players?
- To assess the role of psychologist in football teams.

**Methodology:** Qualitative study approach was applied specifically in-depth interview with Dr Eric Master. Dr. Matser graduated as a clinical neuro- psychologist and has 25 years of experience in clinical neuro- psychology. He worked as the first team psychologist of Chelsea FC with Coach Jose Mourinho for four years.

Two sessions were conducted.

### Key findings:

- The role of the psychologist is relevant in football as a player's mental state can decide a game.
- Football psychologists can help in creating a winning team.
- Psychological skills can help footballers in commitment, communication, concentration, control, and confidence.
- Psychosocial development through targeted intervention can promote youth soccer players behavioural responses associated with skills and decision-making.
- Mental issues in football have a big role.
- Football psychologists can improve your emotional control and prevent injuries.
- A psychologist support footballer to be at the top of their game recognise and improve on their weaknesses and develops their strengths more.

## SPEAKER PROFILE:

Fellow of the Faculty of Public Health UK (FFPH) and Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow (FRCP – Glasgow). Hold a Doctorate degree in Public Health and Epidemiology, Master degree in Clinical Epidemiology (MSc), Master degree in Public Health (MPH), all from The Netherlands Universities with broad experience driving Research and Development (R&D) strategies and operations. Worked in Public Health since 1999 at different levels such as Academic (Erasmus university – Rotterdam / The Netherlands, Queen Mary University – London / UK), University of East Anglia UEA / Norwich, International (United Nations), National Health Authority (Qatar), National Health Service (NHS), UK, Dubai Health Authority and Others. Registered as Epidemiologist Grade A with The Netherlands Epidemiological Society. Has numerous publications in the UK in mental illnesses, cancer, cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, Dementia, Autism, COPD, Ophthalmology, population health, road casualties' infectious diseases, vaccination, and others.

# Drosophila central taste circuits in health and obesity

*Pinky Kain*

*Regional Centre for Biotechnology, India*

## ABSTRACT

When the balance between hunger and satiety is perturbed, food intake gets mis-regulated leading to excessive or insufficient eating. Abnormal nutrient consumption causes metabolic conditions like obesity, diabetes, cardiovascular issues and eating disorders affecting overall health in humans. Despite this burden on society, the current understanding and knowledge of neuronal circuits that regulate appetite and taste perception is still rudimentary. The taste information present at the periphery must be processed by the central circuits in the brain for the final behavioral output. How specific central taste neuronal circuits influence feeding behaviors is still an under explored area in neurobiology. Identification and understanding of central neural circuitry regulating taste behaviors and its modulation with regard to internal state is required to understand the neural basis of taste preference. Simple invertebrate model organisms like *Drosophila melanogaster* can sense the same taste stimuli as mammals. Availability of powerful molecular and genetic tool kit and well characterized gustatory system with a vast array of behavioral, calcium imaging, molecular and electrophysiological approaches make *Drosophila* an attractive system to investigate and understand taste wiring and processing in the brain. By exploiting the gustatory system of the flies, I will shed light on the current understanding of central neural taste structures that influence feeding choices. The compiled information would help us better understand how central taste neurons convey taste information to higher brain center and guide feeding behaviors like acceptance or rejection of food to better combat disease state caused by abnormal consumption of food.

## SPEAKER PROFILE:

Pinky Kain has completed her PhD in neurobiology and genetics at the age of 29 years from National Centre for Biological sciences (NCBS-TIFR), Bangalore, India. She is currently working at Regional Centre for Biotechnology, India and is the principal investigator/ Wellcome Trust DBT Fellow at the Department of Neurobiology and Genetics. She has many publications in the international journal that have been cited over 500 times. She has also written many book chapters. She has been serving as an editorial board member of several reputed journals. She is actively engaged in public outreach program to engage next generation in science and reaching kids of underprivileged backgrounds. She is even mentoring science students by taking online classes for career guidance and raising science awareness. She is a passionate artist and like to play with colors on canvas as well as use her camera for abstract photography. She also likes to experiment with spices and food ingredients in her kitchen for healthy eating. She is a mother, mentor, manager, social worker and scientist.

# Educational tools and methodological approaches to enhance interest and to grow skills in the teaching-learning of the earth sciences: A research in the Italian schools

*Susanna Occhipinti*

*Italy*

## ABSTRACT

Earth sciences teaching-learning process in the Italian schools, where the research has been developed, has highlighted a widespread lack of knowledge among students. This corresponds to a lack of sensitivity towards geological and environmental issues and to our territory, moreover, often characterized by widespread disruption phenomena and natural hazards. This lack of awareness is widely spread also in the society. The goal of this research is then to contribute in spreading a greater awareness in earth sciences' different disciplinary fields. The aim is also in recognizing its concrete applications in our life and in its quality. The students' training is essential but must pass through more operative educational tools and paths, based on more effective methodological and educational approaches: Hands-on practices, active teaching, inquiry and investigation. It is necessary to increase students' interest and passion to promote competences and skills. Research has shown that earth sciences can be a formidable tool for promoting these skills, but they require a systemic vision and a more solid epistemology.

## SPEAKER PROFILE:

Geologist, school principal, with a PhD on "Education and communication of the earth sciences" - University of Camerino, science and technology pole, and a specialization in general and museum education. Science teacher for 25 years, particularly interested in the teaching-learning of earth sciences, searching for new and effective approaches and in promoting the culture of natural risks, coordinator of a center for the teaching of experimental sciences of the Aosta Valley, member of the board of ANISN and coordinator for the IESO; member of the editorial board of the Rivista Geologicamente, Executive Editor-Journal of Earth and Environmental Sciences Research, of the educational commission of the Italian Geological Society, he is co-chair of the IGEO-EGU European chapter, which brings together various European associations of science teachers of the land. Author of numerous publications



International Conference on

# PSYCHOLOGY AND MENTAL HEALTH

November 22-23, 2021 | Dubai, UAE

**Day 2** **Keynote Speakers**



<b>KEYNOTE SPEAKERS</b>
<p><b>Title: Students on health and social care programmes mental health: The role and experiences of faculty staff</b>  <b>Pras Ramluggun</b>, Oxford Brookes University, United Kingdom</p>
<p><b>Title: How the brain creates the mind</b>  <b>Nada Pop-Jordanova</b>, Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Macedonia</p>
<b>ORAL PRESENTATIONS</b>
<p>Sessions: <b>Stress, anxiety and Depression   Addiction</b></p>
<p><b>Title: Psychological Impact of COVID-19 In Panama</b>  <b>Erica Matus</b>, Specialized University of the Americas in Panama, Republic of Panama</p>
<p><b>Title: Socio-demographic characteristics and other factors associated with depressive illness among medical students at the University of Port Harcourt</b>  <b>Aborlo Kennedy Nkporbu</b>, Consultant Neuropsychiatrist, Nigeria</p>
<p><b>Title: Does religiosity protect us from emotional crisis during COVID-19 pandemic – a cross sectional study among students</b>  <b>Alicja Forma</b>, Medical University of Lublin, Poland</p>
<p><b>Title: Harnessing the unspeakable: Effect of using creative methodological tools to help patients speak about their emotions during psychotherapy</b>  <b>Doha M Abualsaud</b>, University of Exeter, Saudi Arabia</p>
<b>POSTER PRESENTATION</b>
<p><b>Title: Starvation and activity dependent modulation of salt taste behavior in Drosophila</b>  <b>Shivam Kaushik</b>, Regional Center for Biotechnology, India</p>
<b>VIDEO PRESENTATION</b>
<p><b>Title: Business process versus human resources performance</b>  <b>Jozef Stašák</b>, University of Economy, Slovak Republic</p>
<b>E-POSTER</b>
<p><b>Title: On fitness to plead: When the accused is speech-less</b>  <b>Kok Keong, Leong</b>, Neuropsychiatry, Cygnet Brunel, United Kingdom</p>

## Students on health and social care programmes mental health: The role and experiences of faculty staff



*Pras Ramluggun*

*Oxford Brookes University, United Kingdom*

### ABSTRACT

**Aim and objectives:** To improve understanding of professional programmes faculty staff practice in supporting student with mental health issues at two university in the south east of England. This project surveyed faculty staff experiences, their confidence in recognising and addressing students' mental health needs and identified effective support for both students and faculty staff.

**Method:** Faculty staff on professional health and social care programmes (nursing, midwifery, occupational therapy, paramedic science and social work) were invited to complete an anonymous online questionnaire about their experiences in supporting students' mental health needs. Participants' perception of their role was thematically analysed. Descriptive statistics were used to present their levels of confidence in recognising and supporting students with mental health concerns.

**Findings:** Seventy-one faculty staff responded to the survey. Their experience of providing support was filled with uncertainties about unclear expectations. Tensions between their academic, professional and pastoral roles were identified. There was a wide recognition that supporting students when expectations of faculty staff were unclear, had a negative impact on them, increasing their workload and emotionally challenging. The confidence in identifying and supporting students' mental health needs was moderate suggesting variations in practice meaning staff not having the same level of preparedness and readiness and students not having the same level and quality of support.

**Recommendations:** Reducing ambiguities and uncertainties with clearly defined role and responsibilities. Reviewing faculty staff advising practices in providing pastoral care. Addressing the structural complexities, overlapping responsibilities and improving communication and structured engagement with relevant student support services in the planning and implementation of student personal support plan. Improving understanding and shared concerns for potential academic/professional integrity and fitness to practise issues. Adopting a transpersonal approach for a comprehensive staff support including relevant mental health training and open spaces for discussion and other appropriate staff support pathways.

### SPEAKER PROFILE:

Pras Ramluggun completed his PhD from the University of East Anglia in 2012. His expertise is in forensic psychiatry. As a clinical lead he has lead and implemented a prison primary mental health service across a prison cluster in the UK. He has taught in Russell Group universities such as University of East Anglia and Kings College London. He is well published and has been serving as an editorial board member of several reputed journals. His research expertise is in qualitative and mixed methods research. His primary clinical research interest is in the management of self-harm and the physical health of those living within a severe mental illness. His pedagogic research includes higher education students' mental well-being, resilience and emotional intelligence.

## How the brain creates the mind



*Nada Pop-Jordanova*

*Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Macedonia*

### ABSTRACT

The main question in neuroscience is how the material tissue (brain) is producing the non-material phenomena (mind; thought, memory, emotions...). Recent advancements in the brain sciences have enabled researchers to determine locations and patterns of neural activation associated with various psychological functions. Still, the mind-brain puzzle is complex and not yet elucidate.

The typical philosopher's approach to mental-neural puzzle is that due to "category error" the methods of science cannot account for conscious experience because they are "simply the wrong sport of methods". On the other side, the position of neuroscientists on this problem varies from the realistic statements based on knowledge in physics and biology of the brain, to the denying statements draining conscious experiences of meaning.

However, some fundamental and practical aspects in this interaction are considered through the study of arousal and attention. This presentation proposes a theoretical approach to explain the characteristic empirical interdependence between the states of arousal (representing the level of consciousness) and EEG activity. The fundamental relevance of EEG spectra for mental activation (both general and focused) can be related to the interaction of electric field with neuronal quantum dipoles.

The obtained analytical expressions and numerical values based on quantum transition probabilities correspond to classical empirical results for arousal and attention, including the characteristic frequency dependence and intervals. There is a substantial distinction between the coarse-grained arousal (as background state of consciousness) and the fine-grained content of consciousness, whereby attention appears to be a bridge. Consequently, we introduced mathematical formula to calculate field-dipole interactions, which corresponds to clinical states and can be considered as an integral brain state attribute, correlated to its electric, mental and metabolic activity.

However, deeper understanding of substrates and emergence of arousal, attention and consciousness must take into account the subtle interplay of neurophysical, neurochemical and neurobiological correlates.

### SPEAKER PROFILE:

Pop Jordanova graduated medicine on the Medical Faculty as well as psychology at the Faculty of Philosophy in Skopje. Her interest in psychological medicine and psychosomatics motivated her to upgrade and improve in this particular area and she established the Department of Psychophysiology at the Pediatric University Clinic in Skopje. Working and publishing scientific and research papers in the field of mental health and psychophysiology she has become internationally recognizable name which is indicated by her selection as a regular member of the International College of Psychosomatic Medicine, European Association for Research in Adolescence, Swiss Society for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, International Organization of Psychophysiology, International Society for Neuronal Regulation, Society for Applied Neuroscience, Society for Self-regulation and Biofeedback. In 1996 for the first time in Macedonia and in the wider region she has introduced computerized biofeedback method in the assessment as well as in the therapy of various psycho physiological disorders. She is a member of these foreign academies: New York Academy of Sciences, USA (1997), the World Academy of Art and Science, USA (2006) and the European Academy of Sciences and Arts, Salzburg, Austria (2012). As a full member of the Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts she was elected on 4th of June 2012. She published 20 books and over 500 articles.

International Conference on

# PSYCHOLOGY AND MENTAL HEALTH

November 22-23, 2021 | Dubai, UAE

Day 2 Oral Presentations



# Psychological impact of COVID-19 in Panama

*Ericka Matus*

*Specialized University of the Americas in Panama, Republic of Panama*

## ABSTRACT

On March 11, 2020, the state of emergency due to Covid-19 was decreed in the Republic of Panama, which ordered the closure of all activities except those in charge of the health and security services sector, in the case of the health authority. The Panama Canal also reduced its activities, and a joint task force was established, where the Ministry of Health, day by day, issued new regulations based on the incipient advances in knowledge of the virus and measures to prevent contagion. In this scenario, universities and research institutes worked virtually to contribute their findings to the joint task team, for example, prototypes of mechanical ventilators were developed, considering the limited capacity of hospital spaces and materials to attend to the population. In the area of psychology, a scale was developed to measure attitudes towards confinement, in addition, the country participated in international research coordinated by Lieberoth, and collaborators (2020), with a sample of 765 participants from the 10 provinces, in the stress, anguish, trust towards institutions, personality, concern about Covid-19, social support and coping were measured, as well as the perception of information sources and media behavior. In addition, a scale was carried out to recognize the psychological effects of patients recovered from said disease. The results have allowed different sectors to make decisions about the provisions and regulations to face the psychological effects of the pandemic, although much remains to be done.

## SPEAKER PROFILE:

Ericka Matus studied her PHD at the Specialized University of the Americas in Panama, has a master's degree in Higher Teaching, from the Latin University of Panama, in addition to a master's degree in Research and teaching in Psychology, at the Ibero-American University, the Specialty in Statistics Applied at the National Autonomous University of Mexico and the bachelor's degree in Social Psychology, the last three in Mexico City. She has worked as coordinator of the degree in psychology, Dean of the Faculty of Education Sciences and Human Development at the Latin University of Panama and has been Academic Vice-Chancellor of the University of the Caribbean in Panama. He currently belongs to the National System of Researchers (SNI) of Panama, is a founding member of the Latin American Association for the Training and Teaching of Psychology (ALFEPSI), a member of the Ibero-American Society of Psychology (SIP) and of the American Association of Psychology (APA). He is a member of the editorial committee of the Cuban Journal of Alternatives in Psychology. It has publications in social, educational and sports psychology.

# Socio-demographic characteristics and other factors associated with depressive illness among medical students at the University of Port Harcourt

*Aborlo Kennedy Nkporbu*

*Consultant Neuropsychiatrist, Nigeria*

## ABSTRACT

The burden of depression as a mental disorder has continued to increase and constituting an enormous public health concern among all age groups. A number of socio-demographic, and other factors including a stressful and rigorous academic programme or curriculum such as the one run in most medical schools could contribute to the occurrence of depression among medical students. The aim of this study was to determine the socio-demographic and other factors associated with depression among medical students in the University of Port Harcourt. This study was a descriptive cross-sectional study. Appropriate sample size was calculated and the stratified random sampling method was used to select the subjects. A well-structured open ended self-administered socio-demographic questionnaire was administered to the students. The zung self-rated depression scale was used to assess the depression status of each respondent. The data were analyzed via descriptive and analytical methods. The prevalence of depression among the medical students was 5.3%. A higher prevalence of depression was associated with younger age group, female gender, lower classes, living on campus and use of psychoactive substances. However, none was statistically significant. Depression does occur among medical students at the University of Port Harcourt albeit low, and was associated with a number of socio-demographic and other factors. The present medical curriculum and programme should be sustained and more efforts at making it less stressful and academically friendly, be made to further reduce the current rate of psychological stress and depression among the students.

## SPEAKER PROFILE:

Nkporbu, Aborio Kennedy is a fellow of the West African College of Physicians and Consultant Neuropsychiatrist/ Mental Health Physician. He also sub-specialises in public mental health, neuropharmacology and addiction medicine. He has a Master's degree in pharmacology and has also completed a Master's in public health. He also passed the International Credentialing Professional Degree Examination for substance abuse/addiction to become the International Certified Addiction Professional (ICAP). He has also undertaken a certificate programme in Leadership and Management in Health from the prestigious Washington University. He is currently undertaking a doctoral degree programme in pharmacology and toxicology. He is currently a senior lecturer and head, department of mental health/neuropsychiatry at the University of Port Harcourt. He was also appointed as an honorary consultant at the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital, Port Harcourt. He is also currently the head, UNODC model drug treatment/rehabilitation centre, University of Port Harcourt, Teaching Hospital, Port Harcourt. He has over 40 publications to his credit in both local and international journal, chapters in referred books and a monogram. He has presented over 50 papers in both national and international conferences and he has been serving as an editorial board member of several reputed journals.

# Does religiosity protect us from emotional crisis during COVID-19 pandemic – a cross sectional study among students

*Alicja Forma*

*Medical University of Lublin, Poland*

## ABSTRACT

**Background:** In the history of humanity, religions always played an important role especially in the case of public health crises. Numerous studies performed during the COVID-19 pandemic specify various factors that either alleviate or enhance emotional distress but only a few focus on the impact of religiosity on mental well-being.

**Purpose:** The purpose of this study was to assess the relationship between religiosity and the level of emotional distress among Polish, Philippine, Egyptian, and Pakistani students during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Methods:** We conducted an online cross-sectional survey that was distributed amongst Polish, Philippine, Egyptian, and Pakistani students (N = 4350) from 12th April to 1st June 2021. The respondents were asked several questions regarding their religiosity which was measured by The Duke University Religion Index. To assess the intensity of emotional distress, we used the depression, anxiety, and stress scale-21.

**Results:** The dominant religion among Polish and Philippine students was christianity while Egyptian and Pakistani students were almost all islamic. The highest religiosity was found in Egypt ( $p < 0.0001$ ); at the same time, Egyptian students presented the lowest levels of emotional distress ( $p < 0.0001$ ). Contrarily, Philippine students had the lowest level of religiosity ( $p < 0.01$ ) and the highest DASS-21 score ( $p < 0.0001$ ). While comparing the students from countries with dominant islam beliefs to the countries with dominant christianity we can observe the same difference. Islamic countries were more religious ( $p < 0.001$ ) and less affected by pandemic related emotional distress ( $p < 0.0001$ ). Overall, there is a negative correlation between the level of religiosity and the total emotional distress ( $r = -0,407$ ).

**Conclusions:** A higher level of religious commitment was associated with a lower intensity of depression, anxiety, and stress symptoms. It could be one of the mental health protective factors against the COVID-19 pandemic-related stress.

## SPEAKER PROFILE:

Alicja Forma is a PhD student at the Medical University of Lublin, Poland. She currently collaborates with researchers from the department of forensic medicine, human anatomy and psychiatry, psychotherapy, and early intervention. She has 27 publications that have been cited over 200 times and her publication h-index is 7



# Harnessing the unspeakable: Effect of using creative methodological tools to help patients speak about their emotions during psychotherapy

*Doha M Abualsaud*

*University of Exeter, Saudi Arabia*

## ABSTRACT

As we go again down the slippery slope of emotional profiling, many people are reluctant to share their true emotions or, in some instances, are unaware of the emotions they constantly feel while encountering difficult situations. Individuals are expected to 'swallow' their feelings in the workplace and only show positive emotions when faced with challenges. Ultimately, the notion of unspeakable emotions is unconsciously immersed into their practice. The process of helping patients to speak about emotions during psychotherapy involves three phases adopted from the phenomenological approaches to emotions. During an exploratory study that I have conducted to understand the daily lived experiences and emotional responses of workers, I have utilised three phases of interview sessions. In the first phase, participants were asked to talk about their experiences using metaphors which helped them reflect on their emotional experiences. In the second phase, semi-structured interviews were conducted to understand their day-to-day practice. Lastly, during the third phase, participants were provided with images of the BLOB tree which helped them reflect on their emotional responses and occupational practice. The findings show that the BLOB tree tool and visual methods yielded more emotionally charged responses from the participants

## SPEAKER PROFILE:

TBA...



International Conference on **Psychology and Mental Health**

International Conference on

# PSYCHOLOGY AND MENTAL HEALTH

November 22-23, 2021 | Dubai, UAE

Day 2

Poster Presentation



## Starvation and activity dependent modulation of salt taste behavior in *Drosophila*

Shivam Kaushik

Regional Center for Biotechnology, India

### ABSTRACT

Sodium present in NaCl is a fundamental nutrient required for many physiological processes but high salt consumption in western world is contributing health risk to all age individuals. Although high salt detection pathways have been studied in great detail, the mechanisms that regulate high salt consumption in animals are largely unknown. To understand how pre-exposure to high NaCl diet modulates subsequent feeding behavior, we looked into the neural mechanisms of high NaCl consumption in adult *Drosophila*. By using neuro-genetics, imaging and behavioral assays we asked how flies respond to high NaCl exposure. We studied the neural mechanism by which flies modify their acceptance of high salt as a function of diet, where a long-term high-salt exposure increases taste sensitivities of pharyngeal LSO (Labral Sense Organ) neurons and enhances high salt intake. We discovered that exposing flies to high NaCl diet (200mM NaCl in fly food) for three days modify their feeding responses to high levels of salt. High NaCl fed flies show decline in high salt aversion under starvation. Genetic suppression of LSO pharyngeal neurons in high NaCl fed flies inhibits excessive salt intake. We found that this modulation requires functional LSO neurons and starvation state, and that multiple independent taste receptor neurons and pathways are involved in this process. Feeding flies with dopamine also gives the same phenotype as starvation state. Silencing any one of multiple LSO neuronal types inhibits excessive salt intake. Our data support the idea that high dietary salt modulates and reshapes salt and other taste curves to promote over consumption of food in flies. Our study suggest flies can adapt to the amount of salt ingested over several days, indicating the presence of a critical mechanism to reset the salt appetite and related neural circuits. Identification of new molecular sensors for salt and related neural controls such as hormones, neuropeptides, and neurotransmitters may yield insights into the coordination of processes in the nervous system.

### SPEAKER PROFILE:

Shivam is currently working at Regional Center for Biotechnology as a Research Associate. He is interested in understanding the functional role of neuronal circuits involved in memory formation in the brain to develop therapeutic strategies and tools for the diagnosis and treatment of neurodegenerative disorders like dementia. He has published many research articles, book chapter and review articles.

International Conference on

# PSYCHOLOGY AND MENTAL HEALTH

November 22-23, 2021 | Dubai, UAE

## Day 2 Video Presentation



## Business process versus human resources performance

Jozef Stašák

University of Economy, Slovak Republic

### ABSTRACT

The contribution deals with qualitative and quantitative analysis of relationship between business processes performance to be investigated (hereinafter BP) versus performance of employees who are interested in that BP functionality hereinafter known as Employees. The qualitative analysis deals with human resources performance psychological aspects, while the quantitative analysis is closely related to BP and employee performance quantification and modelling. On one hand, the qualitative analysis describes psychological aspects concerned to human resources and the investigated BP performance. On the other hand, the contribution deals with quantifying those relationships with use of linguistic sets, which create basis of Business Process Linguistic Modelling (BPLM) approach as well. The PBPL (Principal Business Process Linguistic) equation is applied in order to create a conceptual model of the objective oriented expert system, which operates over the knowledge base, which contains adequate Semantic Networks (SNWs) and Reference Databases (RDBs), while an appropriate inference engine is applied for user communication with that expert system too.

### SPEAKER PROFILE:

Jozef Stašák is a university teacher at Faculty of Humanities University of Žilina (Slovak republic) and his branch of specialization is business process intelligence, especially business process modelling (with the use of standardized and linguistic approach). He was graduated in 1972 and received master's degree diploma in physics, at Faculty of Natural Sciences – University of P.J. Šafárik in Košice (Slovak republic). However, after having been graduated he started working with computers and computational science applying it within records management and archival processing – text and image semantic analysis. In 1997, he started working with business process management problems, where he applied ARIS System for standardized business process modelling and system SAP for providing of business process information support. In 2005, he started applying his knowledge and experiences gained within text and image semantic analysis for business process modelling using so called linguistic approach. He deals with those problems up to now.

International Conference on

# PSYCHOLOGY AND MENTAL HEALTH

November 22-23, 2021 | Dubai, UAE

Day 2

E-Poster



## On fitness to plead: When the accused is speech-less

Kok Keong, Leong

Neuropsychiatry, Cygnet Brunel, United Kingdom

### ABSTRACT

The forensic psychiatric evaluation of a suspected mentally disordered offender includes diagnosis, treatment whenever applicable, criminal responsibility and most importantly, the determination of the fitness to plead. The evaluation would be more challenging in a person with aphasia. Herein, we present a case of Transcortical Mixed Aphasia (TMA) that was sent by court for forensic psychiatric evaluation. We describe the process of helping the suspect to stand trial with the guidance from the Speech Language Therapist (SLT) through Alternative Communication Methods (ACM). The presence of aphasia remains a challenge to the assessment and its validity of fitness to plead for the accused. Hence a multidisciplinary approach is essential to assess and subsequently assist the accused in his fitness to plead.

### SPEAKER PROFILE:

Kok Keong, Leong has been working in psychiatry since 2015. He has extensive knowledge and experience in the assessment and management of patients with mental health disorder. His works primarily focuses on both pharmacological and psychological intervention which are tailored to each individual's needs to achieve the best possible outcomes. His practice is grounded in a holistic and compassionate approach to ensure optimum recovery and care of the patient. He has a special interest in young onset dementia and neuropsychiatry related to epilepsy disorder. He has presented at national conference and published his work in international journals.



International Conference on

# PSYCHOLOGY AND MENTAL HEALTH

November 22-23, 2021 | Dubai, UAE

**Accepted Abstracts**



## Efficacy of behaviour modification therapy on the internet gaming disorder of the selected filipino high school students

Almina P. Ramos

University of Santo Tomas, Philippines

The excessive use of internet in online gaming afflicted several adolescent students in such a way that they found it hard to control their gaming behaviour anymore. There were a lot of studies done as to the causes of this modern-day addiction but there was scarcity on the therapy program that will address the problematic thoughts and feelings associated with this behaviour. This study aimed to devise a Behaviour Modification Therapy (BMT) program that will reduce the frequency, intensity, and duration of their online gaming. In developing the therapy, a mixed method of quantitative and qualitative research using sequential explanatory design was utilized. This was composed of collection and analysis of quantitative data through pre-test on Internet Gaming Disorder (IGD) 20-Test; compilation of qualitative data through related literatures and studies, Focused Group Discussions (FGD) and Training Needs Analysis (TNA). The data were used as bases in designing the eight (8) sessions of BMT. The respondents included in this research were the 12-17 years old public high school students who experienced excessive internet gaming. After the therapy sessions the post test on the (IGD) 20-Test was administered and the t-Test was used to find the difference. The BMT was helpful and efficacious in reducing the IGD symptoms of the respondents. This can be adapted as psychotherapy for IGD.

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## Neurobiological mechanisms underlying vulnerability and resilience to cannabis addiction

Elena Martín García

Pompeu Fabra University, Spain

A hallmark of addiction is the loss of inhibitory control, leading to compulsive behavior in addicted individuals. This disorder's complex multifactorial nature and the unknown neurobiological mechanistic correlation explain the lack of effective treatments. We aim to provide new insight into the neurobiological mechanisms underlying the vulnerability to develop addiction. We used a mouse model of drug addiction using WIN 55,512-2 intravenous self-administration (0.0125 mg/kg/infusion) in C57Bl/6J, targeting the prefrontal cortex (mPFC) to Nucleus Accumbens (NAc) pathway using chemogenetic approaches. We selectively expressed the inhibitory designer receptor exclusively activated by designer drug (hM4Di-DREADD) in mPFC projecting neurons by bilateral injections of a Cre-dependent AAV expressing hM4Di-DREADD into the prefrontal cortex of mice and a retrograde AAV expressing Cre recombinase into the NAc core. Thus, hM4Di receptor expression only occurs in prefrontal neurons that directly project to the NAc core. For the activation of the hM4Di-DREADD, clozapine N-oxide was administered using Alzet osmotic minipumps implanted subcutaneously in the back of the mice that delivered a constant flow rate of 0.25  $\mu$ l/h during 28 days. We also administered THC (5mg/Kg) in a subgroup of adolescent mice from postnatal day 35 to 55. We found that the resilient or vulnerable phenotype of cannabis addiction can be obtained by altering the mPFC signaling. Thus, mice expressing hM4Di-DREADD showed a vulnerable phenotype. Hypoactivity of mPFC to NAc projecting neuron transmission by CNO-induced hM4Di-DREADD activation in prefrontal cortex promoted addictive-like behavior in C57Bl/6J mice. Understanding the neurobiological mechanisms underlying resilience versus vulnerability to cannabis addiction is expected to pave ways for novel and efficient interventions to battle this mental disorder

## Working memory in Cantonese and German speaking dyslexic children

Evelin Witruk  
University of Leipzig, Germany

The performance of visual and auditory working memory together with different automated central executive functions were investigated on the basis of four computerized, adaptive task sets with measurement of accuracy and reaction time. 86 children selected from 192 dyslexic and non-dyslexic children (mean age = 10.29 years) in Hong Kong and Leipzig were matched on intelligence by using the Culture Fair Test (CFT 20) and age. The used reading and writing tests were language specific but scientific similar. Four task sets with visual material (dot and line patterns) and auditory material (tone sequences) were adapted and randomly presented by a computer. Mean and maximum accuracy and speed parameters were measured. The hypotheses of dyslexia deficits and Chinese superiority in working memory performance on nonverbal material were examined. The Cantonese speaking children were found to have a working memory advantage in the speed measure on all four task sets with visual and auditory stimulus presentation, and in the accuracy measure on the auditory tasks only. Dyslexia deficits were only shown in the Chinese sample for the maximum performance parameters and one auditory task set. In the German sample, the dyslexia deficits were found to be more generalized in the auditory matching and reproduction task sets concerning mean and maximum accuracy and speed parameters. The novel approach in this study concerns the new paradigm of adaptive, time efficient testing of working memory functions with nonverbal, auditory and visual material.

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## Beneficial effects of role reversal in comparison to role-playing on negative cognitions about other's judgments for social anxiety disorder

Hanieh Abeditehrani  
University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands

**Background and Objectives:** Negative beliefs about other's judgments play an important role in the development and maintenance of social anxiety disorder. The present experiment examined the effects of role-playing followed by role reversal compared to role-playing twice on altering these negative cognitions.

**Methods:** Thirty-six adult social anxiety patients were randomized into two conditions: a role-playing condition in which 18 participants role-played an anxiety-provoking social situation twice, or a role reversal condition in which 18 participants role-played an anxiety-provoking social situation followed by enacting the same situation using role reversal. Before the start of the experiment, patients were asked to report their negative cognitions about the other's judgments. Next, they were asked to rate the believability of these negative cognitions, as well as the probability and cost estimates of negative judgments by the other person, at three time-points: Before the first block of role-playing, after the first block of role-playing, and after the second block of the experiment.

**Results:** Results demonstrated that role-playing followed by role reversal had a stronger effect on the most negative cognitions than role-playing twice.

**Limitations:** The most important limitation of the present study is that there was no control group to assess the effects of role-playing alone. Moreover, the second block of the experiment was repetitive in role-playing, however, it was a new task in role reversal.

**Conclusions:** The results support the hypothesis that role reversal is an effective technique that can be used to correct negative cognitions about other's judgments in SAD.

## Case study: Psychotherapy of a refugee child in the conditions of a refugee camp

Kateřina Šrahůlková  
Psychologist, Czech Republic

One third of the refugees and migrants who have arrived in Europe are children. The author describes an experience with refugee camp in Lesbos, Greece, where she spent more than half of the year working as a psychologist and psychotherapist. She describes a psychotherapy process in the conditions of a refugee camp and a case of a very vulnerable child, she worked with almost whole this period. This study objective is to cover the conditions, restrictions and influences of a place where the therapy was held (refugee camp) in combination with a key moment in the therapy of this very vulnerable child.

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## Neuropsychological models and neuroimaging of brain disorders caused by cocaine

Nelly Borda Riveros  
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The cocaine use is a worldwide concern, since in addition to being one of the most popular drugs, it is an opioid that directly affects the brain. Multiples studies confirm that its consumption is associated with structural and functional alterations of the brain, especially in the frontal cortex (Ambrosio and Fernandez, 2011); These alterations are evidenced by failures in neuropsychological performance tests that show the loss of functionality that the patient experiences in their daily life (Madoz-Gürpide, Ochoa and Pelegrín, 2009). That is why this literature review refers to the models that neuropsychology manifests in relation to drug dependence, in order to explain the origin and development of addictive disorders, supported through neuroimaging. Starting with the classical model of addiction proposed by Wikel (1965), which was reformulated by new models, among the most prominent, the model based on the transition between impulsivity and compulsion of Everitt and Robbins (2005), the model of alostasis and stress of Koob and Le Moal (2001, 2008) and the model of sensitization to the incentive of Robinson and Berridge (2001, 2003, 2008). Alternatively, Goldstein and Volkow's (2002) model (I-RISA) emerged. Finally, the somatic model of drug dependence was formulated, proposed by Verdejo García and Bechara (2009) and Pérez García and Bechara (2006). These models are supported by neuroimaging commits a drug addiction, are the frontal cortex, limbic structures (insula, amygdala and hippocampus), and basal ganglia, predominantly lateralized in the right hemisphere; so that there is a relationship with structures involved in the valuation of motivational and emotional enhancers (amygdala and insula) and with alterations in dopaminergic (Fagundo et al., 2007). However, their recovery or rehabilitation from addiction can be approached from a neurological and neuropsychological perspective.

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## Wernicke-Korsakoff Syndrome – A challenging case

Rodrigo Saraiva  
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Wernicke encephalopathy results from thiamine deficiency. If undiagnosed or inadequately treated, We evolve into Korsakoff syndrome. Although Wernicke-Korsakoff Syndrome (WKS) more often affects people with nutritional deficiency related to alcoholism, an inadequate brain supply of thiamine of any cause can also result in the syndrome. A challenging case of nonalcoholic WKS that resulted from malnutrition due to psychosis is presented. This case emphasizes the importance of having a multidisciplinary approach for the better care of patients with WKS, having involved in this case psychiatrists, neurologists, internists, neuropsychologists and physiotherapists. Furthermore, the WKS and more specifically the nonalcoholic psychiatric causes of WKS are discussed.

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