

## S0137

**From mentee to mentor: Becoming an early career professor in psychiatry**

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In the last years several social, economic and scientific changes have occurred, which have had a significant impact on psychiatric clinical practice, research and training. Some traditional syndromes seem to be disappeared, while new forms of mental health problems are coming to psychiatric consultation. The psychosocial distress caused by the current ongoing crisis due to the COVID-19 or the maladaptive use of the new technologies among the younger generation, are some good examples of psychosocial factors causing new mental health disturbances. Psychiatrists and mental health professionals are not yet well-equipped for managing these, which represent major unmet needs in modern clinical practice. Furthermore, in this evolving social context, the societal role of psychiatrists is completely changed, moving from being "alienist" working in asylums to "mental health care providers" working in the communities. The role of psychiatrists is to improve global mental health and to promote well-being in the general population according to a life-span perspective. Nowadays, early career psychiatrists report several unmet needs that we are not able to manage. In this symposium, I will describe my personal experience of moving from my role of mentee to mentor.

**Disclosure:** No significant relationships.**Keywords:** early career psychiatrist; mentor; Future of psychiatry

## S0136

**The way forward: Insights and suggestions from an early career psychiatrist**

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People with psychosis are commonly socially isolated, both due to their condition, and the stigma towards them. Remote volunteering over smart-phone can be a way to overcome social isolation and physical distance, promoting social inclusion. This talk will present the qualitative findings from a feasibility study – the Phone Pal – which connected in the United Kingdom patients with psychosis with community volunteers, to communicate with each other for up to 12 weeks via smart-phone (through texts, WhatsApp messages, e-mails, audio or video calls). Participants described at the end of the study their experiences of communicating with their match over the smart-phone in terms of frequency, duration and timing of communication, their communication method, content and style, and the changes of communication over time. Several participants reported a positive impact of being connected with someone, meeting a new person, feeling supported and feeling better, and a few described challenges, such as disappointment, guilt and burden. These

interview findings show that some matches were able to develop a positive and friendly relationship, and were willing to continue to be in contact with each other beyond the study duration. It is hoped that this talk will generate a lively discussion, gathering further understanding about the potential benefits and challenges of remote volunteering over smart-phone for patients and volunteers, and its potential usefulness in the current pandemic times.

**Disclosure:** No significant relationships.**Keywords:** Interviews; Volunteering; Technology; psychosis**Integrating real world evidence and mobile technology to reduce treatment gaps in mental healthcare: Lessons from COVID-19**

## S0137

**Insights from electronic health record data to improve mental health service delivery during the COVID-19 pandemic**R. Patel<sup>1\*</sup>, J. Irving<sup>1</sup>, A. Brinn<sup>1</sup>, M. Broadbent<sup>2</sup>, H. Shetty<sup>2</sup>,  
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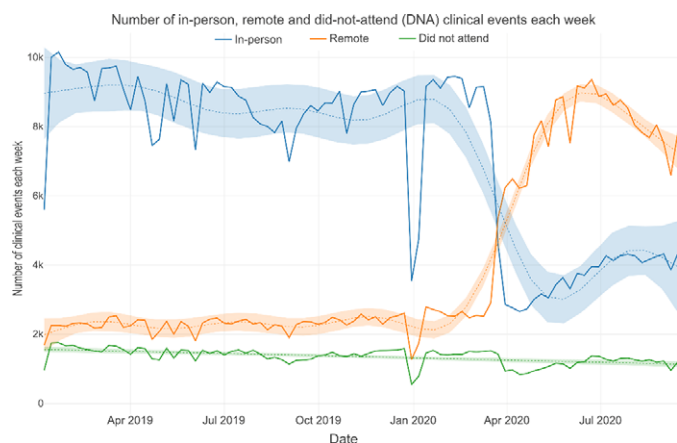
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**Background:** Remote consultation technology has been rapidly adopted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, some health-care settings have faced barriers in implementation. We present a study to investigate changes in rates of remote consultation during the pandemic using a large electronic health record (EHR) dataset.

**Methods:** The Clinical Record Interactive Search tool (CRIS) was used to examine de-identified EHR data of people receiving mental healthcare in South London, UK. Data from around 37,500 patients were analysed for each week from 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019 and 20<sup>th</sup> September 2020 using linear regression and locally estimated scatterplot smoothing (LOESS) to investigate changes in the number of clinical contacts (in-person, remote or non-attended) with mental healthcare professionals and prescribing of antipsychotics and mood stabilisers. The data are presented in an interactive dashboard: <http://rpatel.co.uk/TelepsychiatryDashboard>.

**Results:** The frequency of in-person contacts was substantially reduced following the onset of the pandemic ( $\beta$  coefficient: -5829.6 contacts, 95% CI -6919.5 to -4739.6,  $p < 0.001$ ), while the frequency of remote contacts increased significantly ( $\beta$  coefficient: 3338.5 contacts, 95% CI 3074.4 to 3602.7,  $p < 0.001$ ). Rates of remote consultation were lower in older adults than in working age adults, children and adolescents. Despite the increase in remote contact, antipsychotic and mood stabiliser prescribing remained at similar levels.



**Conclusions:** The COVID-19 pandemic has been associated with a marked increase in remote consultation, particularly among younger patients. However, there was no evidence that this has led to changes in prescribing. Further work is needed to support older patients in accessing remote mental healthcare.

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**Keywords:** telepsychiatry; telemedicine; SARS-Cov2; Electronic health records

### S0138

#### Digital psychiatry and COVID-19: a potential recruitment opportunity

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Psychiatry has long been battling with a recruitment crisis in the UK which is also reflected across much of Europe. Covid-19 has brought about widespread changes to our ways of working, as well as driving technological developments, which provides potential opportunities for the profession to draw people into the speciality. Covid-19 has brought interest in digital psychiatry from the peripheries to the mainstream. Mental health professionals are currently using sophisticated technologies such as Virtual Reality, Artificial Intelligence and Natural Language Processing in the diagnosis and treatment of mental health disorders. Highlighting the ways in which our profession is at the cutting edge of innovation to junior doctors offers a fruitful avenue to improve recruitment into the speciality. Many outpatient clinics have made the move to online service delivery during the pandemic to varying degrees. For many clinicians this has allowed more flexible and efficient ways of working. Psychiatry is better placed than most other medical disciplines to retain online patient contact in future clinical practice, post pandemic and may provide an attractive proposition for future psychiatrists. This talk will

review some of the ways in which developments in digital psychiatry have been used to help generate interest for recruitment into the discipline as well as evaluating the benefits and challenges of the shift to telepsychiatry during Covid-19 and will offer some suggestions what the profession can learn from this to help future recruitment.

**Disclosure:** No significant relationships.

**Keywords:** digital; telepsychiatry; COVID-19; Recruitment

### S0139

#### Social media misinformation during the COVID-19 pandemic: Impacts on public mental health

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Social Media Misinformation During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Impacts on Public Mental Health

**Introduction:** Some behavioral measures such as handwashing, masking or social distancing are among the most effective tools to combat COVID-19 pandemic.

**Objectives:** Describe the extent to which major media outlets in the United States and Spain have tweeted about COVID-19 health related behaviors, and determine if differences exist between major media outlets in the two countries.

**Methods:** We analyzed contents posted on Twitter by 25 major media outlet's (15 from USA and 10 from Spain) about COVID health related behaviors (HRB). News content were analyzed and classified as well as Twitter users' reactions.

**Results:** Masking and quarantine were the HRB that generated most of the tweets. However, we found differences between media outlets in the two countries. Twitter user's engaged more with tweets posted by USA media. Most of the tweets describing HRB from the general population were consistent with CDC/WHO guidelines.

**Conclusions:** Understanding the public view of these HRB is necessary to design promotional strategies aimed at the appropriate population.

**Disclosure:** No significant relationships.

**Keywords:** Twitter; COVID

### S0140

#### Monerdaktar: A large online mental health service to improve access to care in bangladesh during the COVID-19 pandemic

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**Background:** More than 92% of people in Bangladesh are deprived from any sort of mental health care due to severe scarcity of mental health professionals, widespread stigma, lack of awareness, the inability to travel from remote area to Dhaka and maintaining the cost of travel and clinics. Moreover, the COVID-19 crisis made