Since January 2020 Elsevier has created a COVID-19 resource centre with free information in English and Mandarin on the novel coronavirus COVID-19. The COVID-19 resource centre is hosted on Elsevier Connect, the company's public news and information website.

Results

Familial multiple sclerosis frequency (7.10%) was identified in the RJ study population. The risk of Age-adjusted recurrence (ARR) was high among grandparents, at 2.72 (95% CI 2.16–3.28). Sibling ARR was calculated as1.41 (95% CI 1.22–2.08), and Caucasian ancestry conferred a risk of 1.96. Concerning the parent relationship, ARR was of 1.57 (95% CI 1.36–1.78) and increased to 1.76 (95% CI 1.41–2.11) in the presence of a European ancestor. Among uncles/aunts, a significant increase from 1.42 (95% CI 1.01–1.83) to 2.91 (95% CI 2.28–3.54) risk in individuals with Caucasian ancestry was observed, and to 2.65 (95% CI 2.02–3.27) in individuals with African ancestry.

Conclusions

A higher risk among individuals with Caucasian ancestry was observed compared to Afro descendant ancestry.

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118198

The prevalence of COVID-19 infection in patients with multiple sclerosis (MS): A systematic review and meta-analysis

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Background and aims

There prevalence of COVID-19 is different in studies conducted in different countries. The aim of this systematic review and meta-analysis to estimate pooled prevalence of COVID-19 in patients with MS.

Methods

Two independent researchers independently searched PubMed, Scopus, EMBASE, Web of Science, and google scholar along with gray literature up to 23th of October 2020.The search strategy included the MeSH and text words as (((coronavirus OR Wuhan coronavirus OR novel coronavirus OR coronavirus disease OR COVID-19 OR 2019 novel coronavirus infection OR 2019-nCOV OR severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 OR SARS-CoV-2) AND (Multiple Sclerosis OR Sclerosis, Multiple) OR Sclerosis, Disseminated) OR Disseminated Sclerosis) OR MS (Multiple Sclerosis)) OR Multiple Sclerosis, Acute Fulminating).

Results

We found 1460 articles by literature search, after deleting duplicates 1023 remained. Twelve articles remained for meta-analysis. Totally 16577patients were evaluated and total number of possible/confirmed cases was 570. Mean age ranged from 35–54 years. Totally 4 patients died. The pooled prevalence of COVID-19 in MS patients was 4% (95% CI: 2%–5%) ($I^2 = 95\%$, $P < 0.001$).The pooled prevalence of hospitalization in infected cases was 15% (95% CI: 8%–23%) ($I^2 = 92\%$, $P < 0.001$).The pooled prevalence of death in infected cases was 0% ($I^2 = 0$, P-0.9).

Conclusions

Hospitalization rate is higher among MS patients based on COVID-19 while the pooled infection rate estimated as 4%.

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118199

Prevalence of COVID-19 infection in patients with neuromyelitis optica spectrum disorder (NMOSD): A systematic review and meta-analysis

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Background and aims

The novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is in pandemic stage and there are concerns about patients with autoimmune diseases

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E67756167653E656E673C2F6C616E67756167653E3C2F7265636F
72643E3C2F436974653E3C2F456E644E6F74653E (3) up to now, NMOSD cases have been evaluated regarding COVID-19 infection and different infection rates have been reported. So, we designed this systematic review and meta-analysis to estimate pooled prevalence of COVID-19 infection in patients with NMOSD.

Methods

We systematically searched PubMed, Scopus, EMBASE, Web of Science, and google scholar and also gray literature up to 20th of October 2020. The search strategy included the MeSH and text words as (((coronavirus OR Wuhan coronavirus OR novel coronavirus OR coronavirus disease OR COVID-19 OR 2019 novel coronavirus infection OR 2019-nCOV OR severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 OR SARS-CoV-2) AND (Neuromyelitis optica spectrum disorder OR NMOSD OR Devic syndrome OR Neuromyelitis optica spectrum disorders). STATA (Version 13.0; Stata Corp LP, College Station, TX, USA) was used for data analysis. Inconsistency (I2) was calculated for heterogeneity evaluation.

Results

The literature revealed 54 articles. Totally, 3458 patients with NMOSD were evaluated. The pooled estimate of COVID-19 infection in NMOSD patients was 2% (95%CI:0–7%)(I2 = 80.6%, $p < 0.001$).

Conclusions

Prevalence of COVID-19 infection is rare in NMOSD patients.

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118200

Psychometric properties of Croatian version of the multiple sclerosis intimacy and sexuality questionnaire-15

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Background and aims

Multiple sclerosis (MS) is a chronic demyelinating inflammatory progressive disease of the central nervous system that results in a wide range of clinical manifestations and has a great impact on patient quality of life. The aim of this study was to determine the psychometric properties of Croatian version of the multiple sclerosis intimacy and sexuality questionnaire-15 (MSISQ-15).

Methods

A cross cultural adaptation of the MSISQ-15 into Croatian and a psychometric analysis of the translated version of the MSISQ-15 was carried out in MS patients. The MSISQ-15 includes three subscales: primary - MS related neurologic changes that may directly affect sexual feelings and/or sexual response; secondary - MS related physical changes that affect the sexual response indirectly; and tertiary - referred to the psychosocial and cultural aspects of MS that affect sexuality. The data was descriptively analysed and Chronbach's alpha assessed internal consistency. Pearson's correlation was performed on the MSISQ-15 total scale and subscale scores. The level of significance was set to $p < 0.05$.

Results

Eighty-two MS patients were assessed (mean age 42.6 ± 11.9 years, 62.2% females). The means score for the MSISQ-15 total scale, primary, secondary and tertiary subscales were 33.35 ± 13.00, 12.01 ± 5.38, 11.31 ± 4.47 and 10.04 ± 5.37, respectively. Cronbach's alpha for the MSISQ-15 total scale was 0.93 (range for subscales: 0.84–0.92). The total MSISQ-15 scale significantly correlated with all subscale scores (Pearson correlation range: 0.77–0.91).

Conclusions

The Croatian version of the MSISQ-15 can be a valid and reliable instrument for multiple sclerosis intimacy and sexuality problems in Croatian-speaking MS patients.

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118201

Differences in MS clinical and epidemiological characteristics in Ashkenazi and Non Ashkenazi Jewish patients in Israel – A retrospective single center study

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Background and aims

Background. The prevalence and severity of Multiple Sclerosis (MS) are diverse across different ethnicities, with a tendency to a more severe phenotype in Non-Caucasian populations.

Objective. Our objective was to evaluate the differences in disease phenotype between Ashkenazi and Non-Ashkenazi Jewish patients in Israel

Methods

We conducted a retrospective cohort study based on clinical charts. Subjects were assigned to Ashkenazi or Non-Ashkenazi groups according to self-reported ancestry and disease severity was assessed using the expanded disability status (EDSS), MS severity score (MSSS), progression index (PI) and MRI metrics.

Results

We identified 330 Ashkenazi and 207 Non-Ashkenazi patients. Non-Ashkenazi patients were younger at evaluation (43.0 years vs. 49.4 years) and at disease onset (32.7 years vs. 35.7), with a lower proportion of females (62.3% vs. 73.3%). MSSS was higher in Non-Ashkenazi patients (3.29 vs. 2.91) when adjusted to covariates using propensity score analysis and in patients with relapsing remitting MS (RRMS) when analyzed separately (2.47 vs. 1.90).

Conclusions

Non-Ashkenazi Jewish patients scored higher in disease severity scores, were diagnosed at an earlier age and demonstrated a narrower sex gap as compared to Ashkenazi Jewish patients. These findings might contribute to prognosis evaluation and motivate further epidemiological and genetic investigation.

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118202

Clinical and paraclinical findings in a case series of MOGAD: Exploring the presence of perivenular brain white matter lesions

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