

Pattern and Clinical Profile of Children and Adolescent Visiting Psychiatry Out Patient Department of Tertiary Health Center Amidst COVID Pandemic- a Cross Sectional Study

Authors : Poornima Khadanga, Gaurav Pawar, Madhavi Rairikar

Abstract : Background: The COVID 19 pandemic, with its unparalleled mental health repercussions, has impacted people globally and has catalyzed a Mental Health pandemic among the youth. The detrimental effects on mental health needs to be pondered at the earliest. Aims: To study the behavioral problems among children and adolescents visiting Psychiatry Outpatient Department Tertiary Health Care during COVID pandemic and its correlation with socio-demographic profiles. Methods: A cross sectional study was conducted by interviewing 120 participants between 4 to 17 years of age and their parents, visiting Psychiatry OPD. Behavioral problems were assessed using the Strength and Difficulties Questionnaire and diagnosed by DSM-5. Statistical analysis was done by SPSS-21. Results: Male participants showed significant association with conduct ($t=2.36$, $p=0.02$) and hyperactive problems ($t=5.07$, $p<0.05$). Increase in screen time showed a positive correlation with conduct problems ($r=0.22$, $p=0.02$). Attention Deficit Hyperkinetic Disorder (18.3%) was the most commonly diagnosed psychiatric illness. Total difficulty score was significantly associated with difficult temperament ($F=68.69$, $p<0.05$). Conclusion: The study brings to light the pattern of behavioral problems that emerged during recent times of uncertainties among the young ones, including those with special needs. The increase in disruptive behaviors with increase screen time needs to be addressed at the earliest.

Keywords : behavioral problems, pandemic, screen time, temperament

Conference Title : ICCPAP 2022 : International Conference on Child Psychiatry and Adolescent Psychiatry

Conference Location : Amsterdam, Netherlands

Conference Dates : May 16-17, 2022