

# Mental Health Consequences of COVID-19 Pandemic on Health Care Workers

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## ABSTRACT

**Background:** The recent pandemic situation that resulted from the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak has had a significant impact on nearly every element of the society. The pandemic has put a lot of danger on the mental and physical wellness of frontline healthcare workers and supporting hospital staffs since they are the sole in charges of the diagnosis and treatment of the COVID-19 infection. According to studies from China, Italy, Turkey, Spain, and Iran, healthcare workers have a higher frequency of having psychological impacts than the overall population. Being a HCW, being a woman, having a lower socioeconomic level, having a greater chance of contracting COVID-19, and social isolation were all common risk factors. On the contrary, having enough medical resources, having up-to-date and accurate knowledge, and having enough medical resources were all protective factors.

**Objective:** This review was primarily cantered to look into the prevalence of psychological problems in different types of healthcare workers (doctors, medical residents, nurses, technicians, and public health workers) during the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the factors that are linked to the onset of psychological problems in this population during a public health crisis.

**Methods:** Original papers, reviews, preprints, and letters to editors relating to our topic were reviewed using keyword searches in PubMed, Web of Science electronic databases, Asian Journal of Psychiatry. Ten amongst them were finally chosen. This article presents a systemized review of them after extensive and rigorous research.

**Conclusion:** Actions are required to reduce the effects of COVID-19 on mental health by protecting and improving the psychological well-being of healthcare professionals during and after the epidemic. Analysing rates of mood, sleep, and other mental health difficulties is thus a primary priority in order to find moderating factors and tailor therapies.

**Key words:** Psychological impact, COVID-19, Stress, Anxiety, Depression

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## INTRODUCTION

The current by and large circumstance of a pandemic has affected humankind taking everything into account and still continues to make disturbance among all areas of the overall people, be it those from monetarily weaker establishment or the prosperous part of the overall people. Right when the entire human race is coordinating such a circumstance, it is seen that strain and fear among the greater part becomes by goodness of nonattendance of data and nonappearance of arranging of clinical benefits structure. Through this article, I want to include the effects of such an astounding mass event and particularly illuminate its suggestions for mental prospering of

individuals. It other than plans to show the gravity of the issues related to mental prosperity and how the proportion of people affected is drastically creating. The article will in like manner inspect about various methodologies for directing pressure and procedures for regulating strain, apprehension, etc. to keep us mentally strong what's more propose frameworks to progress enthusiastic health as required construction up a positive environment during such seasons of crisis.

Pandemics increase workload and generate worry, anxiety, terror, frenzy, and hysteria in individuals in general, and in health care workers in particular, because HCWs are on the front lines of fighting the problem [1-2]. The current epidemic has made HCWs more susceptible to contracting the virus, resulting in heightened mental stress. They are concerned, terrified, and mentally scarred about their families contracting the sickness, as well as their own health. Appropriately any rational person would agree that enthusiastic achievement of prevention is more important. An individual should be Coronavirus positive when the

specific tests positive in a RT-PCR test. A CT Chest has wound up being significant in reprimanding the risk of intricacies. Imaging uncovers dim changes like that of pneumonia. By and by, there is no decisive treatment for Coronavirus, yet a couple of cures like dexamethasone have displayed to diminish the reality of contamination.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

### Corona and its effects on mental health

Irrational and wild dread relating to the infection and its spread is one of the most conventionally experienced mental prosperity issues. The dread of contamination and the shortcoming of the course of sickness and its annoys is expanded definitely in individuals who feel that they are "perhaps ruined", particularly just in the wake of helping out RT-PCR incredible individual. Impressions of anxiety are stretched out if they dread contaminating different individuals from the family further tangling the circumstance. Unavoidable nervousness about moving toward pulverization, pity, and losing friends and family adds on to a previously repulsive situation. "Social suppression identified with obstructions and lockdown measures are related with energies of soft spot for the future, dread of new and dull infective specialists accomplishing strangely expanded fear." Effects of segment are recognizable speedily which shows as weariness and negative examinations. This astoundingly influences mental and genuine flourishing of the person. Such partition comparatively has extended length impacts of nonstop hopelessness, consistent nervousness and absurd affinities. For us to say that this pandemic is a cake walk is underhanded. It has impacted all spaces of society and individuals of all age packs including adolescents, youngsters, grown-ups and more settled. For school going youngsters, it had been an adjust in setting from the old style strategies for instructing to the most safe kinds of automated planning.

Since the beginning of the pandemic throughout the world, there has been a psychological and physical burden of greater risk of infection, isolation, weariness, fewer safety facilities, and lack of contact with family among health care personnel. It is causing more mental health issues, which may limit their capacity to function successfully and have long-term negative consequences for their health [1-4].

Although HCWs are trained to deal with medical emergencies, they are not immune to the psychological stress and trauma that they can produce. Front-line personnel are more psychologically stressed than others since they are immediately involved in dealing and managing patients [1-2]. One obvious factor is the rise in illness and mortality rates among medical personnel. Stigma, powerlessness, irritation, worry, anxiety, and fear of discrimination may result from the abrupt transition from warrior to victim. The reasons for such outcomes are several [5]. They include a lack of moral and monetary support, insufficient personal safety equipment, increased workload, and media-induced hysteria. The SARS outbreak a decade ago also

demonstrated that Health Care Professionals without prior emergency management expertise have a lower mental health condition, and they are more likely to be affected by psychological stress, phobic anxiety, and interpersonal sensitivity [6-7]. Thus, HCWs must have extensive professional experience, emergency management training, and social support. Despite the fact that several studies have been conducted since the beginning of the pandemic to analyse the psychological impact of COVID-19 on health-care personnel, however, comprehensive review and analysis of existing studies are lacking [8-10].

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

Several investigations on the frequency of mental health disorders among HCWs were undertaken during the pandemic, and a close link was found between the disease and the epidemic. This review was focused on presenting a systematic evaluation of the research done in this area so far. An attempt was made to explore the link between COVID-19-related variables and HCW mental health difficulties.

**Article selection:** Articles from PubMed, Research Gate, PJSMBlog, Google Scholar, and Asian Journal of Psychiatry were searched using keywords and filters. The terms psychological, stress, mental health, and psychiatric concerns were used, as well as COVID-19, corona, new corona virus, and HCW, or doctors, medical staff, or health care professionals. Original articles, reviews, commentaries, and letters to editors that were relevant to our analysis were extracted, and reports were taken and analyses through cross-references where applicable.

**Inclusion and exclusion criteria:** Original articles about our topic that were published in the last few months were included. The titles of studies that did not fulfil the inclusion criteria were filtered out.

**Description of articles selected:** After a preliminary search and screening, 24 articles were chosen. There were 5 original articles, 3 editorials, 4 reviews, 5 correspondence/commentaries, and 7 letters to the editor among them. Following a final screening, 9 articles were selected of which, 6 of them were from China [1-5] two from Pakistan [11,12] one from India [13].

## RESULTS

**Socio-Demographic variables:** The participants evaluated ranged in age from 26 to 40 years old, with the bulk of the participants being female (68.7%-85.5%). Being a woman with an intermediary work has been associated to higher levels of anguish, worry, stress, and depression, according to studies. Similarly, medical workers under the age of 30 had increased self-rated depression. HCWs aged 31 to 40 were more concerned about their families, whereas those aged 50 to 60 were more stressed by a patient's death. For HCWs between the ages of 41 and 50, personal safety was a major concern. Older employees reported greater stress as a result of increased workload and a lack of Personal



fighting the pandemic on the frontlines, a high degree of professional experience, thorough training, social support, and resilience are required. Mental health should be closely monitored, and a specific strategy should be established to address and resolve their psychological difficulties.

Findings to help yourself intellectually strong  
 comprehend that coronavirus has impacted individuals in different ways, possibly the clearest region being mental prosperity. When the whole human race is managing such a situation, it is perceived that tension and dread among the bigger part becomes considering nonattendance of information and nonappearance of readiness of clinical advantages. Frustrations understanding the gravity of the issue, and going similarly short by the poor situation, really need to wait during a situation which didn't depend upon any information and is short to us through verbal exchange or WhatsApp pushes. Legends about testing and spread of disease it spreads through air drops and besides through surface transmission through the indistinguishable ought to be dropped. Assessments ought to in this way be told about the significance of getting endeavored at dispensed information centre. This will assist with decreasing the dread of the doctor and the impression of pushing toward destruction which will eventually assist the doctor being intellectually fit. Perhaps the best strategy for helping ourselves fit, both truly and intellectually, is a kind of genuine or sharp which hence is conceivable inside the limits of the actually compelled rules, avoiding anticipated that dangers should shield oneself as early as others from this illness. It has been found through different inspections that activity in social plan or different collaborators, you here it counts, truly and intellectually.

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