Due to the particular significance of cognitive deficits, it is very important to identify them accurately at an early stage. Strategies for identifying cognitive deficits are presented in an EPA guidance paper. To improve cognition in patients with schizophrenia, it has been suggested to combine pharmacotherapy with neuropsychological training. A meta-analysis showed the positive effect of cognitive remediation programmes in schizophrenia. While the strategies available today for the treatment of cognitive dysfunction are useful and should be implemented, it is hoped that pharmacological add-on strategies will come onto the market to have a greater effect on cognitive impairments.

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared

WS024

Crisis support in practice

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doi: 10.1192/j.eurpsy.2025.213

Abstract: An experienced practitioner describes the fundamentals of crisis support and Psychological First Aid – the knowledge base for the ongoing work in Västra Götalandsregionen, Sweden, using VR to practice crisis support. How is crisis support defined and what is the difference between crisis support and psychological treatment? What is the aim of crisis support? The presentation includes current knowledge about how humans react in a crisis, in the acute phase as well is in the longer term. What are the guidelines for providing Psychological First Aid and how can we implement them in practice?

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared

WS025

Crisis Support VR: Bridging the Gap in Psychological First Aid Training -from initial idea to real virtual training

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doi: 10.1192/j.eurpsy.2025.214

Abstract: This presentation will explore the development and implementation of the Crisis Support VR project, funded by the VGR Innovation Fund and involving five hospitals and primary care. In today's society, the need for crisis support is more pressing than ever. However, we identified a significant gap in opportunities to practice Psychological First Aid. To address this, Region Västra Götaland collaborated with VirtualSpeech to create a system that has been tested by hospital staff, emergency services, and crisis support teams. This presentation will detail the project's journey from its inception to its current state, highlighting the challenges and successes encountered along the way.

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared

WS026

Overview of Existing Research on Crisis-Support Training in Virtual Reality

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Abstract: This presentation will provide an overview of existing research on crisis-support training in virtual reality, highlighting both the opportunities and challenges of utilizing this training method. It will review current research trends in the field, identify gaps in knowledge, and propose directions for future research initiatives. Studies on crisis-support training that utilize a virtual reality training approach for professionals working with children and adolescents will also be presented.

Disclosure of Interest: None Declared

WS027

Attitudes towards generative-AI based Virtual patient systems in crisis support training

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Abstract: While generative AI (genAI) has made significant advances, millions of people are facing humanitarian crises, resulting in the denial of their basic human rights. One humanitarian response to addressing humanitarian crises is crisis support teams with knowledge of psychological first aid (PFA). In humanitarian crises, skilled practice in PFA by crisis support teams can strengthen the mental health of affected individuals, which can be crucial to ensuring societal well-being. At the same time, there are major challenges in training crisis support teams in PFA. With advancements in genAI, there are opportunities to develop virtual patient systems to enhance PFA training for crisis support teams. This presentation will share preliminary data collected through the genAI-agents survey, which explores technological openness, attitudes and learning through genAI and genAI-based virtual patient systems in healthcare education as well as specifically targeted questions to the genAI-based VP system Crisis Support-VR. This survey is a part of a larger project focusing a central research question Does Crisis Support-VR enhance the skills and ability of crisis support teams to deliver effective PFA, thereby strengthening the mental health of individuals affected by humanitarian crises with two interconnected sub-goals; • to empirically explore health and medical staff within children, youth and adult services learning in Crisis Support-VR, • to develop an educational module for training and practice opportunities in PFA to support and help national and international organizations train crisis support teams in applying PFA to children, youths an adults affected by humanitarian crises.

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