Introduction: Previous migrant population studies have shown that immigrants experience high level of psychological load and difficulties in accessing care. This is especially prevalent in those with refugee background. To tackle this issue, the PALOMA2 project (National support system for refugee mental health work and the knowhow dissemination) establishes a National PALOMA Centre of Expertise (PALOMA COE) for mental health work among refugees.
Objectives: The PALOMA COE consists of all five University Hospital Areas and an NGO representative. The PALOMA COE work is becoming a permanent part of the Finnish health care structure. Each represented region has their own specific strengths and challenges, and the formation of Regional PALOMA COEs is planned accordingly. Together these Regional PALOMA COEs form the National PALOMA COE. Here we dive deeper into the Tampere University Hospital Region's formation of PALOMA COE.
Methods: Psychiatric Clinic for Refugees (PCR) has been working for over 24 years in the Tampere City area. PCR has a long history of PALOMA COE work in forms of clinical work, consulting and training professionals working with refugee mental health. From the beginning of 2021, PCR is integrating with Tampere University Hospital.
Results: As a part of the integration process, the PALOMA COE work has a possibility to expand to the entire University Hospital area and better fulfill the specific needs of the entire region.
Conclusions: The integration will improve the resources, quality and access to mental health care among people with refugee background.

Keywords: Refugees; Mental Health Services; Center of Expertise; Migration

EPP0791

Emigration impact on psychiatric disorders

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doi: 10.1192/j.eurpsy.2021.1090

Introduction: Emigration is a widespread phenomenon in our country for the last three decades.Various risk factors for mental disorders are related to emigration,like social-economic status,language,cultural shock,racism etc.
Objectives: The objectives of this study is assess how much of a risk factor is emigration in the development of psychiatric disorders.
Methods: This is retrospective study done on 178 patient charts from The Comunity Mental Health Center Nr.3 in Tirana,of patients who durin the last 20 years had their first episode of mental health disorder durin emigration.
Results: Emigrants before year 2004 had more psychotic disoders,whereas those after that year manifested more mood disorders.The mean age for starting MDD is 35 years old,and the mean age for schizophrenia is 25.Females develope more mood disorders,whereas males manifest more schizophrenia.
Conclusions: Emigration affects deeply mental health,and is a risk factor for developing psychiatric disorders,with females being prone to have mood disorders,whereas males schizophrenia. Schizophrenia start in an earlier age compared to depression.

Keywords: Imigration; impact; psychiatric disorders; Imigration; impact; psychiatric disorders; phenomenon

Neuroimaging

EPP0793

Sex differences in total brain volume in a cognitively unimpaired elderly population

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doi: 10.1192/j.eurpsy.2021.1091

Introduction: Although a large number of studies have shown brain volumetric differences between men and women, only a few investigations to date have analyzed brain tissue volumes in representative samples of the general elderly population.
Objectives: We investigated differences in gray matter (GM), white matter (WM) and intracranial volumes (ICVs) between sexes in individuals above 66 years old using structural magnetic resonance imaging (MRI).
Methods: Using FreeSurfer version 5.3, we automatically obtained the ICVs, GM and WM volumes from MRI datasets of 84 men and 92 women. To correct for interindividual variations in ICV, GM and WM volumes were adjusted with a method using the residuals of a least-square-derived linear regression between raw volumes and ICVs. We then performed an ANCOVA comparing men and woman including age and years of schooling as confounding factors.
Results: Women had a lower socioeconomic status overall and fewer years of schooling than men. The comparison of unadjusted brain volumes showed larger GM and WM volumes in men. After the ICV correction, the adjusted volumes of GM and WM were larger in women.
Conclusions: After the ICV correction and taking into account differences in socioeconomic status and years of schooling, our results confirm previous findings of proportionally larger GM in women, as well as larger WM volumes. These results in an elderly population indicate that brain volumetric differences between sexes persist throughout the aging process. Additional studies combining MRI and other biomarkers are warranted to identify the hormonal and molecular bases influencing such differences.

Keywords: Magnetic Resonance Imaging; Grey Matter; White Matter; Sexual Dimorphism

https://doi.org/10.1192/j.eurpsy.2021.1090 Published online by Cambridge University Press