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1.16 THE EFFECT OF QUARANTINE ON THE EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING OF KIDS: A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW

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Objectives: COVID-19 has a significant impact on the mental health of children and adolescents including adverse consequences from quarantine or isolation. In this systematic review, we explore the impact of quarantine and isolation on psychological well-being of youth and propose a comprehensive strategy to reduce psychological burden.

Methods: Three electronic databases including PubMed, Scopus, and Web of Science were searched for relevant articles by using the following search terms: (stigma OR stigma OR stigmatization OR stigmatization) AND (psych* OR mental OR anxiety OR depression OR stress OR insomnia OR adjustment) AND (quarantine* OR patient isolation OR isolate* OR lock-down OR lock-down OR cordon) AND (child* OR adolescent OR adolescence OR youth). Two independent reviewers performed title and abstract screening followed by full-text screening by using predetermined eligibility criteria. Data were extracted for study population, country of study, scales used to measure for outcome, summary of results, and limitations.

Results: The initial search found 530 unique citations, and 10 studies were included after thorough screening. Among the included studies, the study design was cohort in 4 studies, cross-sectional in 3, and descriptive qualitative in 3. The most common diagnoses were acute stress disorder, adjustment disorder, grief, and PTSD. There was also evidence for restlessness, irritability, anxiety, clinginess, and inattention with increased screen time in children during quarantine.

Conclusions: This review helps in improving the understanding of quarantine’s effects on children and adolescents, such as mental health issues, stigma, physical health, education, socialization, and parental perception. We also propose interventions for quarantined children through education, information dissemination, behavioral activation, health care system response, school-based strategies, and other coping techniques.

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1.18 THE EXPERIENCE OF RECEIVING A DIAGNOSIS OF DEPRESSION: A PILOT STUDY WITH ADOLESCENTS FROM BRAZIL

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Objectives: MDD is a common mental disorder affecting adolescents worldwide. Qualitative studies focusing on adolescent depression, although still not very common, may shed some light on how depression is experienced by youth, as well as their reaction to receiving the diagnosis. This pilot study had the aim to qualitatively explore adolescents’ subjective experience of depression.

Methods: A total of 10 Brazilian adolescents (6 boys, 4 girls), aged 14 to 16 years, were interviewed twice: immediately after receiving a diagnosis of MDD and 2 weeks after. All participants were taking part in the Identifying Depression Early in Adolescence (IDEA) study in Porto Alegre, South Brazil. Questions focused on how adolescents perceive and experience feelings of traditional diagnostic criteria (eg, sad mood, irritability) and what aspects they believe caused and/or influenced the onset of their depression. Responses were analyzed using framework analysis.

Results: All adolescents reported having changed as a core component of depression; they seem to understand that depression feels like not being themselves anymore. They often mentioned unspecific feelings of discomfort, and annoyance, but they did not express surprise when diagnosed with depression. All of the adolescents reported feelings of sadness; 7 adolescents also reported irritability as a symptom. Five of those who reported irritability related it to the feeling of sadness toward oneself, because of not wanting or not being capable of talking about one’s feelings and emotions.

Conclusions: This first study of Brazilian adolescents highlights the opportunity to discuss how depression can be experienced by young people and its emotional well-being. Further studies are needed to understand how adolescents perceive and experience the subjective experience of depression.