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EDITORIAL



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The 5th European Conference of Psychiatry and Mental Health “Galatia” 2021 took place online during the period 21–25 April 2021 under the aegis of “Dunarea de Jos” University, Romanian Academy and Romanian Minister of Health. The conference was attended by more than 1200 participants — specialists in psychiatry and connected fields. The theme of this event was “Virtual addictions and Interdisciplinarity in Psychiatry during the Pandemic”.

The Covid-19 pandemic has transformed the world since the beginning of 2020 and has produced many changes in key aspects of healthcare delivery. The emergence of SARS-CoV-2 has been seen as the promoter of many dramatic changes, especially in the medical field, having a huge impact on health systems around the world. Both patients and healthcare professionals have been subjected to a new stress factor that has resonated strongly in everyday life. This leads to an increased risk of association of psychological disorders, especially for patients suffering from chronic diseases, as they have already had a history of psycho-vulnerability.

Child Psychiatry/Human Development stands in focus of this issue. A toddler plays with a smartphone for a couple of hours daily: does it influence his psychomotor development? The observational cross-sectional study in 260 children aged 8–36 months who used digital devices for 2.13 ± 2.04 hours/day, showed a negative effect on language and action performance (Coppola et al). Particular attention should be paid to support, treatment and schooling of children with special educational needs including autism (Cuvinciuc et al), (Elkan et al).

A total of 601 abstracts were applied. From these abstracts 179 papers were selected to be presented oral or as a poster at the Conference. After the peer-review process (double blind), only 24 papers have been proposed to be published and indexed in the Special Issue of the journal *Archiv Euromedica*. All the reviewers are specialists in the field of the paper evaluation and they are members in editorial boards or peer-review teams of the indexed (WoS) journals.