



Preface for the special series on “Psychological and Physical Impacts of COVID-19 Pandemic”

In this special series of the *Journal of Public Health and Emergency*, this series delves into the multifaceted effects of the unprecedented global crisis, exploring diverse aspects of its influence on individuals, communities, and healthcare systems.

In the series, we present a collection of insightful articles that contribute to our understanding of the ramifications of the pandemic. These articles encompass a variety of research perspectives, including original studies and comprehensive reviews, shedding light on the intricate interplay between the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic and psychological as well as physical well-being.

The first original article, “Implication of the nationwide emergency announcement on coronavirus disease 2019-related preventive behavioral change among Japanese residents”, conducted by Lu *et al.* (1), provides a cross-sectional study examining the behavioral changes among Japanese residents following nationwide emergency announcements.

Moving on to explore the impact on specific patient populations, Teh *et al.* (2) present “COVID-19 effects on breast cancer patients: symptom presentation and critical intervals in a Malaysian hospital”, investigating symptom presentation and critical intervals in a Malaysian hospital.

Shifting focus to the realm of education, Amalaraj *et al.* (3) contribute a systematic review titled “E-learning during COVID-19 and anxiety levels among university students: a systematic review”, offering valuable insights into the challenges faced by students in adapting to remote learning during the pandemic.

Addressing the unique challenges faced by pregnant women, Pratiwi *et al.* (4) explore “Factors associated with behavior of reducing anxiety in pregnant women during COVID-19 pandemic”.

Concluding the series, another review article by Pratiwi *et al.* (5) investigates the “Psychological impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on nurses and coping strategies: a systematic review”, offering a comprehensive overview of the challenges faced by healthcare professionals on the frontline.

We hope this series provides a platform for a deeper understanding of the profound and far-reaching consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic on both psychological and physical aspects of our lives. Each article contributes valuable insights to the collective effort in navigating and mitigating the challenges posed by this unprecedented global crisis.

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