Since January 2020 Elsevier has created a COVID-19 resource centre with free information in English and Mandarin on the novel coronavirus COVID-19. The COVID-19 resource centre is hosted on Elsevier Connect, the company's public news and information website.

Elsevier hereby grants permission to make all its COVID-19-related research that is available on the COVID-19 resource centre - including this research content - immediately available in PubMed Central and other publicly funded repositories, such as the WHO COVID database with rights for unrestricted research re-use and analyses in any form or by any means with acknowledgement of the original source. These permissions are granted for free by Elsevier for as long as the COVID-19 resource centre remains active.
110883
Associations between personality characteristics and perceived quality of life in medical students during the Covid-19 pandemic
A. Mihaiescua,b, A. Graurb, I. Ionića,b, V. Styliadisa, T. Serbanb, L. Bubulac, L. Diaconescuc, O. Popa–Velea
daUniversity of Medicine and Pharmacy “Carol Davila”, Bucharest, Romania
bClinical Hospital of Psychiatry “Prof dr Al. Obregia”, Bucharest, Romania

Background
This study examined the perceived quality of life (QOL) in medical students in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic and in relation to the Big-Five personality typology.

Method
613 medical students (113 men, 500 women, mean age = 21.43, SD = 1.749) enrolled in the University of Medicine and Pharmacy “Carol Davila” in Bucharest participated in the study. They completed the Big Five Inventory-2 (Extra-short Form), the Perceived Stress Scale (Cohen et al., 1995), the Fear of Covid-19 Scale (Ahorsu et al., 2020), the Satisfaction With Life Scale (SWLS) (Diener et al., 1985), the Perceived Stress Scale (Cohen et al., 1995), the Fear of Covid-19 Scale (Ahorsu et al., 2020), and a survey including 21 questions about the self-perceived QOL in academic life during the Covid-19 pandemic. Data analysis comprised t and Kruskal-Wallis tests, and multiple regression. The threshold of statistical significance was p < 0.05.

Results
The sample was split into two QOL subgroups: low, who scored ≤20 at the SWLS (N = 98, 12.6%) and high, who scored >20 (N = 515, 87.4%). Low QOL was directly associated to Extraversion (t(611) = −4.972, p < 0.001), Agreeableness (t(611) = −2.886, p = 0.004), Conscientiousness (t(611) = −3.238, p < 0.001), high Negative Emotionalilty (t(611) = 6.097, p < 0.001), and Perceived Stress (t(611) = 6.982, p < 0.001) (F(5,607) = 39.341, p < 0.001, R2 = 0.245). Increased stress was associated with Low Extraversion (β2 = 15.702, p < 0.0001), Low Conscientiousness (β2(2) = 25.177, p < 0.001), and High Negative Emotionalilty (β2(2) = 187.573, p < 0.001).

Conclusion
Medical students faced difficulties in coping to academic life changes during the Covid-19 pandemic and displayed lower levels of QOL. These results could be informative for developing undergraduate medical programs increasing self-awareness and resilience in the academic environment.

doi:10.1016/j.jpsychores.2022.110884

110884
Psychotropic drugs in patients with Covid-19: A retrospective cohort study (PsyCovid-19 study)
O. Mordenti, G. D’Andrea, M. Giannella, A. Carloni, F. Cesa, R. Muratori, I. Tarricone, P. Viale
aDepartment of Biomedical and Neuromotor Science (DIBINEM), Section of Psychiatry, University of Bologna, Bologna, Italy
bDepartment of Medical and Surgical Science (DIMEC), University of Bologna, Bologna, Italy
cDepartment of Mental Health of Bologna, AUSL Bologna, Bologna, Italy

Objective
There is evidence of a bidirectional association between COVID-19 disease and psychiatric disorders. Our objective was to identify if individuals with psychiatric disorders could have a worst prognosis and if psychotropic drugs could worsen the disease course.

Method
In our study, we included all individuals with a laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 infection (PCR diagnosis) who were admitted to the University Hospital of Bologna between 1st March 2020 and 31st January 2021. We checked mortality at 14 and 30 days after admission. We also collected data about pre-existing psychiatric disorders and the use of psychotropic medications at the admission. Finally, we estimated cause-specific Hazard Ratios (HR) of mortality using weighted Cox regression models and adjusting sociodemographic (age, gender) and clinically relevant variables (comorbidity, c-reactive protein levels, severity of disease at presentation, history of smoking).

Results
Out of a total of 1201 hospitalized patients, 318 were prescribed psychotropic medications at the time of admission. Among these, 48 (4.0%) were taking a first generation antipsychotic nd 63 (5.2%) a second generation antipsychotic drug We present data which show that exposure to antipsychotics prior to hospitalization was associated with increased cause-specific HR of death at 14 and 30 days in adjusted models.

Conclusion
Patients with COVID-19 infection exposed to antipsychotics may have a higher risk of mortality, so these drugs should be prescribed with caution. People affected by severe mental illness have both medical and socioeconomic risk-factors for severe Sars-Cov-2 infection, morbidity and mortality, therefore they should be considered fragile patients within the COVID-19 vaccination campaign.

doi:10.1016/j.jpsychores.2022.110884