

[1] Efforts to ensure continuity of psychiatric care under the COVID-19 pandemic

Under the COVID-19 pandemic, medical/psychiatric institutions had to introduce or strengthen measures to prevent the spread of infection (e.g., temperature measurement, disinfection, preventive equipment, screening of infection at the time of hospitalization, and questionnaires on behavioral history). An increase in procedures and costs also took place to maintain the existing level of care. Various efforts seem to have been made, depending on the infection severity and the capacity of treatment or care for COVID-19 in the country (region).

In this symposium, we would like to share the efforts that each country took to ensure continuity of psychiatric care so that we can prepare better for future responses.

Applicants are required to submit an abstract responding to the following questions.

- (1) Give an overview of the COVID-19 pandemic in your country (region).
- (2) How has psychiatric care changed in your country under the COVID-19 pandemic? How did psychiatric care change under the COVID-19 pandemic in your country? Discuss the increase or decrease of illness and the state of health care delivery.
- (3) In your country, in response to the confinement to prevent the spread of COVID-19 infection, what mental health care measures have been taken in relation to patient visits and treatment (e.g., remote medical care)?
- (4) Discuss the challenges of psychiatric care under the COVID-19 pandemic in your country and how the challenges have been addressed.