

TITLE: Impact of covid-19 pandemic on psychophysical stress in patients with adrenal insufficiency: the corti-covid study

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Research activity description: Background: COVID-19 pandemic is a novel, potentially adverse condition for patients with adrenal insufficiency (AI), whose life expectancy and quality of life (QoL) are impaired due to their risk of infections and stress-triggered acute events. Therapeutic usefulness of glucocorticoids in COVID-19 is debated, but infected AI patients require prompt replacement tailoring.

Objectives: in a cohort of AI patients, to assess:a) the prevalence, manifestations and outcome of COVID-19; b) the prevalence of adrenal crises and their possible association with intercurrent COVID-19 and/or pandemic-related psychophysical stress; c) the emotional impact of the pandemic-induced social distancing; d) the self-reported QoL and health status during the lockdown.

Study design: open-label, cross-sectional, monocentric study (University Hospital of Ancona, Italy) covering the period February-April 2020.

Patients and methods: 121 patients AI underwent a three-questionnaire telematics interview.