

FROM EDITORS

Dear Readers,

In the pre-holiday issue, we have prepared a real mix of topics and forms for you to elaborate on - from a clinical case through analyses of the scientific literature to several reports of original research. In my classes with students, I often emphasise how important intuition and experience are, in addition to reliable knowledge, which we must constantly update by reading, among other things, APP. The psychiatrist's intuition is certainly based precisely on knowledge and daily experience in clinical work.

Do you know what 'jazz' is? I had no idea either, although when I glanced at the authors (Slawek Murawiec and Prof Trojanowski) I suspected it would be ornithological. In this article we have bird species identification, medical intuition and the theory of the brain "as a tool for making predictions". This text is thought-provoking. For encouragement, I would add that we also have statistical theories and artificial intelligence here. Real scientific jazz, full of improvisation and freedom of ideas.

Tomasz Graźlewski and co-authors reviewed the literature from 2011-2022 available in three major medical databases looking for existing evidence of abnormalities in the cortisol awakening response (CAR) in psychotic disorders and at-risk conditions. Continuing with the theme of psychotic disorders, particularly first episode, it is worth reviewing an original report by Italian authors led by Lorenzo Pelizza. They addressed the topic of depressed mood (DM) in first episode schizophrenia (FES). Specifically, their aim was to longitudinally monitor the severity of DM during a 12-month follow-up and to evaluate the Early Intervention in Psychosis (EIP) programme. It proved to be effective but I encourage you to read the full article and the results of their study.

American researchers sent us the results of their study of an important construct for everyone - self-efficacy, which they assessed in a group of people being treated for depression. I can only report that gender differences in this area are still very strong, but the experiences of previous generations also count. Read the details yourself.

In another study, Serdar Karatoprak and Yunus Emre Dönmez, authors from Turkey, aimed to investigate the relationship between resources of exposure to Covid-19-related information and sociodemographic characteristics and mental health problems during the pandemic. They included an important group - children and adolescents - in their population-based study.

The article by Morteza Hashemian and co-authors from far away Iran deals with the intersection of psychiatry and neurology and anaesthesiology. The researchers are empirically testing how the type of anaesthesia for a surgical procedure affects the stress experienced by the patient and, conversely, the stress experienced beforehand can make a difference to the experience during and after the procedure. This study assessed stress levels after neuraxial anaesthesia in trauma patients undergoing lower limb surgery with midazolam and propofol. Which drug seems to be a better choice for the patient?

Pomeranian interdisciplinary research team present the case study of a giant faecaloma, which appeared as a complication of neuroleptic treatment. The authors have touched on a very important topic in a rather embarrassing area that can cause suffering to patients on antipsychotic treatment and even endanger their health and life. Another sensitive topic is the inability of women suffering from vaginismus to have sexual intercourse. Another group of researchers from Turkey, on the oth-

er hand, looked into structural potential changes in the central nervous system that could influence the occurrence of vaginismus.

Interesting, interdisciplinary topics are the content and value of this issue of APP.

On behalf of the entire editorial team, I wish you a happy holiday season,

Joanna Rymaszewska