

ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE FOR PH PATIENTS THROUGH THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

TREATMENT AND PH CENTRES DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC:

82% from patients report that the Bulgarian healthcare system was focused exclusively on COVID-19 treatment at the expense of other chronic diseases.

Access to oxygen therapy for home use was difficult due the period October to December 2020. There was overstocking with O2 concentrators from non-risk groups.

QUALITY OF LIFE

45% of responses said PAH has a "major impact" on their overall quality of life during COVID-19 pandemic.

55% Life expectancy has a big impact on quality of life, along with emotional and mental wellbeing and relationship and family.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

38% said it had a "major impact"

62% said PAH affects their ability to attend work or education.

▶ The patients that have contracted COVID-19 have experienced a financial burden in relation to the illness.

CONCLUSIONS:

- The access to healthcare in COVID-19 conditions as a whole is assessed as worsened by the patients with PH, on top of that, this is the case for almost every aspect with the exception of access to medication.
- The practice where general practitioners give consultations on the phone to patients with PH is assessed as inadequate regarding the treatment of COVID-19 and the vaccination campaign.
- The patients with PH have received adequate information from the specialized centers.
- The use of digital media for improving the access to healthcare for patients with PH is unpopular and too unknown.

*The research is part of project "Patient response against COVID-19", conducted in March 2021.



Bulgarian society
of the patients with
PULMONARY HYPERTENSION

 /BSPPH.Bulgaria

 bspph_bulgaria

 @BSPPH

 bgspph@gmail.com

www.bspph.net