

# Demand for Psychiatrist Nurse in the COVID-19 Inpatient Wards

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## Dear Editor

In December 2019, the viral outbreak was reported in Wuhan, China, by a novel virus named COVID-19.<sup>1,2</sup> The virus spread worldwide rapidly because of its high contagiousness, infecting almost all countries in a short time.<sup>3,4</sup> COVID-19 can affect multiple organs, including the respiratory system, neurology system, liver, and kidney.<sup>5-8</sup> The most important factors impairing the mental health of the COVID-19 patients include the uncontrollable spreading of the disease, unfavorable conditions of the infected patients isolated in the ICUs with acute respiratory problems, lack of effective medications, and the high COVID-19-related mortality rate.<sup>9,10</sup> A study by Huang and Rong showed that coping strategies in the patients and nurses in COVID-19-related wards are key determinants of treatment outcome.<sup>11,12</sup> In general, increased levels of stress can affect health status. Therefore, developing psychological management strategies to maintain and promote the patients' and healthcare providers' mental health in COVID-19-related wards are useful. In the present study, we hypothesized that the presence of a psychiatric nurse might speed up the recovery, decrease hospital stay and mortality, and lower mental health maintenance.

**Keywords:** Coronavirus, Psychiatrist, Covid-19

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