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Psychological impacts of COVID-19 outbreak on mental health status of society individuals: A narrative review

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From the end of December 2019, outbreak of a novel viral disease was reported in Wuhan city of China, which was caused by a novel coronavirus and was officially named as COVID-19 by World Health Organization (WHO). The outbreak of COVID-19 was unique in its rapidity of transmission, which has become a global health emergency within just a few months in all countries worldwide. This disease will not only raise public health concerns but also cause several forms of psychological distress, including anxiety, fear, depression, stigmatization, avoidance behaviors, irritability, insomnia, and posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD). In this situation, the maintenance of mental health of individuals is very important because people in different parts of society may experience the psychological symptoms to COVID-19 during the rising phase of the outbreak, including patients of COVID-19, quarantine individuals, health care workers and family members of medical staffs, children, university students, pregnant women, and families. In this regard, there is the strong evidence that the mental health status of these populations is vulnerable to psychological disorders.