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INTRODUCTION

Background
- Abrupt closures of daycares, schools, and recreational centres worldwide
- High stress home environments
- 1.4 billion children were out of school or childcare, without access to group activities, team sports, or playgrounds
- Concerns, range from psychosocial impacts to nutritional and safety outcomes
- An understanding of the potential impacts is necessary to plan for the eventual return to socialized life, and to design programmes and policy that will support families in the short- and long-term

Objective
- To examine extant literature on pandemics and epidemics to identify the expected impact of COVID-19 on children

Child Outcomes of Interest
- Stress related disorders, mood disorders, grief, stigma, child abuse, play/screen time, family conflict, academic losses, malnutrition, job/income loss

METHODS

Scoping Review: Arksey & O’Malley’s 5-Stage Method

1. Identify the research question
2. Identify Relevant Studies
3. Selection of Studies
4. Identify patterns and organize data into common themes
5. Collate, summarize and report results

Outcome Domains Investigated (% of total articles included)
- 62% specified negative mental health outcomes
- 33% poor nutrition
- 25% child abuse
- 25% economic challenges
- 23% negative academic impacts
- 21% reduced play/increased screen time
- 8% family conflict
- Pre-existing vulnerabilities and greater suffering

RESULTS

Sample of Charting Methods (stage 4 in methods) & Results

Table 2. Studies found through scoping review searches 1-14

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First author and year</th>
<th>Crisis/Year</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Participants (N: age)</th>
<th>Study Design</th>
<th>Key Findings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aitken 2010</td>
<td>H1N1</td>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>1292 over 18 years</td>
<td>Cross-sectional</td>
<td>94% have food for 3 days of isolation; 54% have food and water for 3 days of isolation if utility services were stopped; Households with children less prepared for 3 days of isolation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boeck 2011</td>
<td>H1N1</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>554 elementary school children</td>
<td>Cross-sectional</td>
<td>70% of children stayed home; 20% left home during the school closure (most commonly to playgrounds); Households in which adults were employed, 24% left home</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DISCUSSION

Contributions/Strengths
- Focused comparison between outcomes in different pandemics
- Balances a wide scope of pandemics/outcomes while focusing on specific outcomes and unique challenges

Gaps in Research
- Effects of COVID-19 longitudinally
- Research comparing outcomes to pre-pandemic levels is needed to make more meaningful comparisons

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

CONCLUSION

- Pandemics and epidemics have had diverse and widespread negative consequences on children
- Findings can inform the development and implementation of resources for children during the COVID-19 pandemic

References available upon request

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS