

## A patient in a life-threatening condition - challenges and new solutions during the COVID-19 pandemic

Guest Editor

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As a result of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the scope of work of medical staff caring for a patient in a health or life emergency has changed significantly. On the one hand, multitasking, physical and mental fatigue, work under time pressure and uncertainty are present. On the other hand, it is required to update knowledge and skills in often new, not fully understood reality. The multifactorial nature of the described problem prompts the exchange of experiences of the medical community - including clinical and academic ones - on the risks to staff and patients, but also development opportunities.

This special issue aims to cover topics related to the challenges launched by COVID-19 pandemic, with particular emphasis on retrospective and prospective observation of the medical environment in the work with patients in life-emergency, as well as new logistics and educational solutions - including medical and virtual simulation reality - allowing to meet the requirements of the current epidemiological situation.

**Key words:** COVID-19, life-threatening conditions, patient, psychophysical factors, education, simulation, virtual reality

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