

Supplementary Material

‘Stepchildren of the Ministry’: an examination of the difficulties endured by family physicians in Istanbul during the course of the COVID-19 pandemic

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Demographic Questions:

Location of the FHC:

Age:

Experience as a physician in years:

Marital Status:

Number of Children:

Professional Questions:

- 1- How often were you able to get tested? How often were you able to get tested during the pandemic?
- 2- Would you say that responsibilities of family physicians were altered during the pandemic? And if so, how?
- 3- Do you think your Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) has been sufficient in terms of quality and quantity? Have you taken any additional special precautions for protection other than PPEs? If so, what were they?
- 4- Were you able to continue your routine services during the pandemic? If so, in what way? If not, why not? What were you not able to do? What additional responsibilities did you have to take on?
- 5- What do you think were the best practices in primary healthcare during the pandemic?
- 6- What do you feel were the worst practices that emerged in primary healthcare during the pandemic?
- 7- Mass vaccinations have started. To what extent have COVID-19 vaccines been administered in primary care? How do you evaluate this process?
- 8- Have you volunteered during the vaccination program/ as part of the vaccination program? If so, where and why?
- 9- Professionally, what would you say exhausted you the most during the epidemic?
- 10- What were some of the problems you encountered during contact tracing? How did this process affect your workload and your mental health?
- 11- How did the number of patients you see change during this period?
- 12- How many people in your registered population have had COVID-19?
- 13- Do you think there has been an increase in the psychiatric problems of your patients? What kind of complaints do you encounter the most?

Psychological Questions:

- 14- Have you had COVID-19? If yes, how many times? How do you think it was transmitted?
- 15- Do you think you are able to protect yourself? Have you had any problems with protection?

- 16- To what extent do you think you pay attention to COVID-19 measures in your social life? Are you worried about infecting your immediate circle?
- 17- What was the most tiring thing for you in your social/private life during the epidemic?
- 18- Have you lost any close colleagues from COVID-19? If so, how did this affect your work?
- 19- What do you think were the main factors that contributed to family doctors getting infected (from their patients, from home, social contact, etc.)?
- 20- How did the banning of resignations and taking leave from work affect your motivation to work?
- 21- On a scale of 1 to 10, how would you rate the state of your mental health?
- 22- Have you been to / started seeing a psychiatrist? If so, was it through telemedicine or face to face?
- 23- Have you started using medication? If yes, what?
- 24- Have you ever received psychiatric support before? Were you taking medication? If yes, which one(s)?
- 25- What have you been doing to relax both mentally and psychologically during this process?
- 26- Have you ever regretted being a doctor during this period?