

# Impact of COVID-19 on the care of children with neurometabolic disorders

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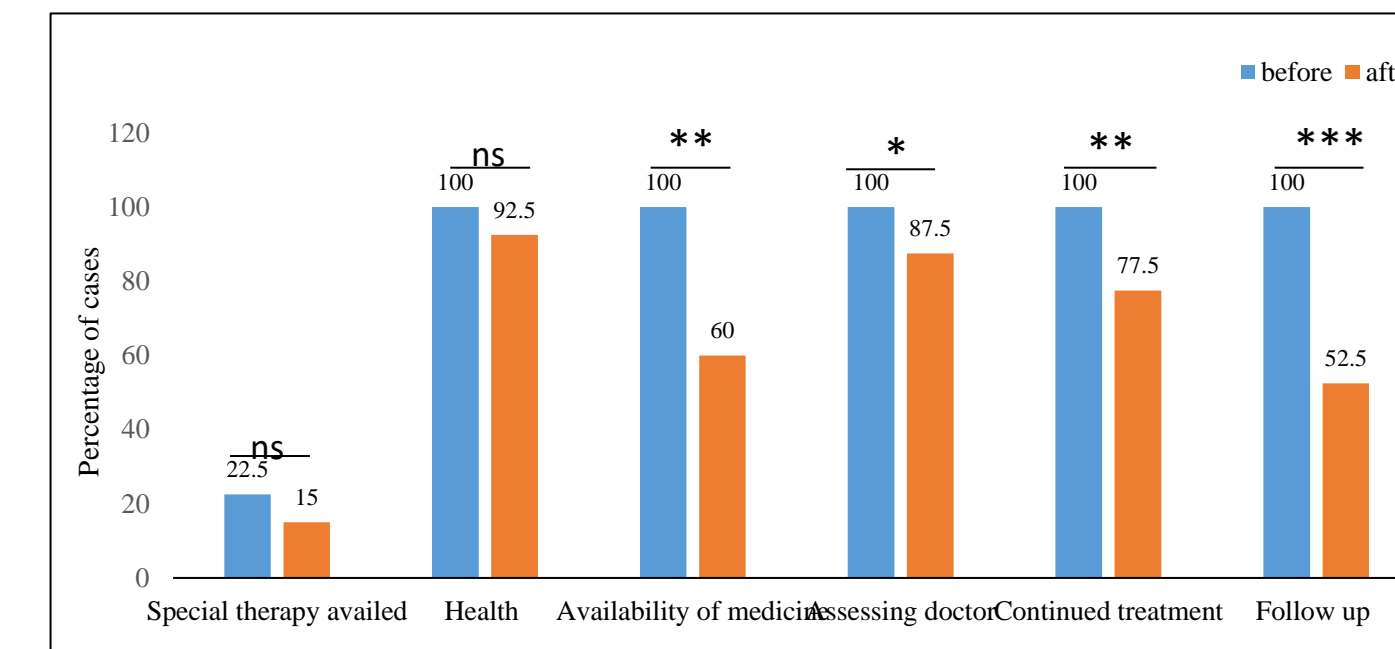
## Introduction

- Corona virus disease (COVID-19) is a global pandemic,
  - caused by the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2)<sup>1</sup>
  - disrupted many aspects of life
  - burden is beyond the acute physical illness<sup>2</sup>
- lockdowns reduced the community mobility and disease transmission
- Also impacted the healthcare services, lifestyle and mental health<sup>3</sup>

## Materials and Methods

- **Study type:** Cross-sectional survey
- **Study population:** 40 parents or caregivers of children diagnosed with neurometabolic disorders
- **Study period:** March 2020 to March 2021
- **Study setting:** Pediatric Neurology Clinic of a tertiary care hospital
- A pragmatic anonymised survey with 38 questions was developed. Questions were hosted online.
- Informed consent was taken
- Statistical analysis using SPSS software

## Results



**Figure 1.** Facility utilization and health condition of children with neurometabolic diseases during COVID period

P < 0.05 \*, P < 0.01 \*\*, P < 0.001 \*\*\* and ns for P > 0.05

## Conclusion

- ✓ Significant effect on the health of children with neurometabolic disorders and their caregivers.
- ✓ Our study highlights the basic needs of patients with neurometabolic disorders and the outlook of their caregivers during pandemic like situations.
- ✓ More strategies and effective measures can help in the fulfilment of unmet medical needs and improve the caregivers' quality of life.

## References

1. Cai JH, Wang XS et al. First case of 2019 novel coronavirus infection in children in Shanghai. 2020.
2. Haleem A, Javaid M, Vaishya R. Effects of COVID-19 pandemic in daily life. *Curr Med Res Pract* 2020.
3. Goswami JN, Sondhi V et al. Effects of lockdown during corona pandemic on children with neurodevelopmental disorders-A questionnaire-based survey. *Turk J Pediatr*. 2021.

## Acknowledgements

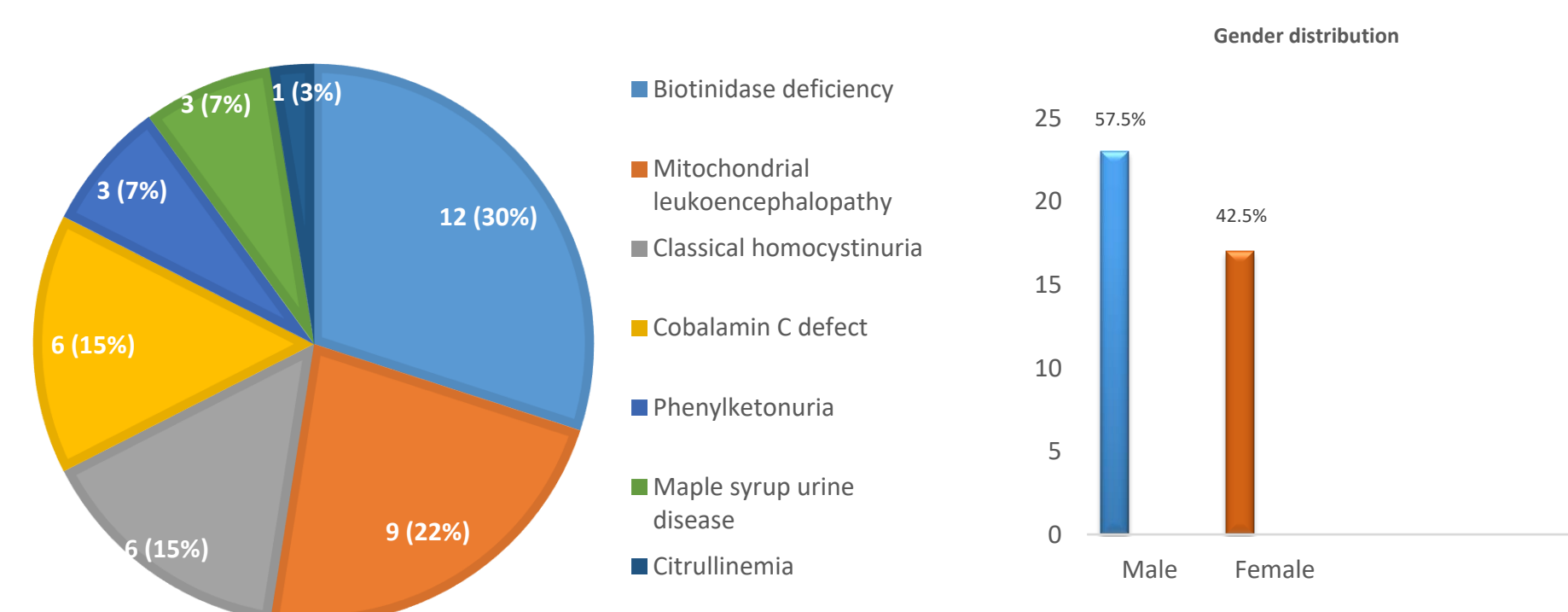
- All the patients, their parents and guardians who participated in this survey
- Department of Pediatrics, PGIMER Chandigarh

## Objectives

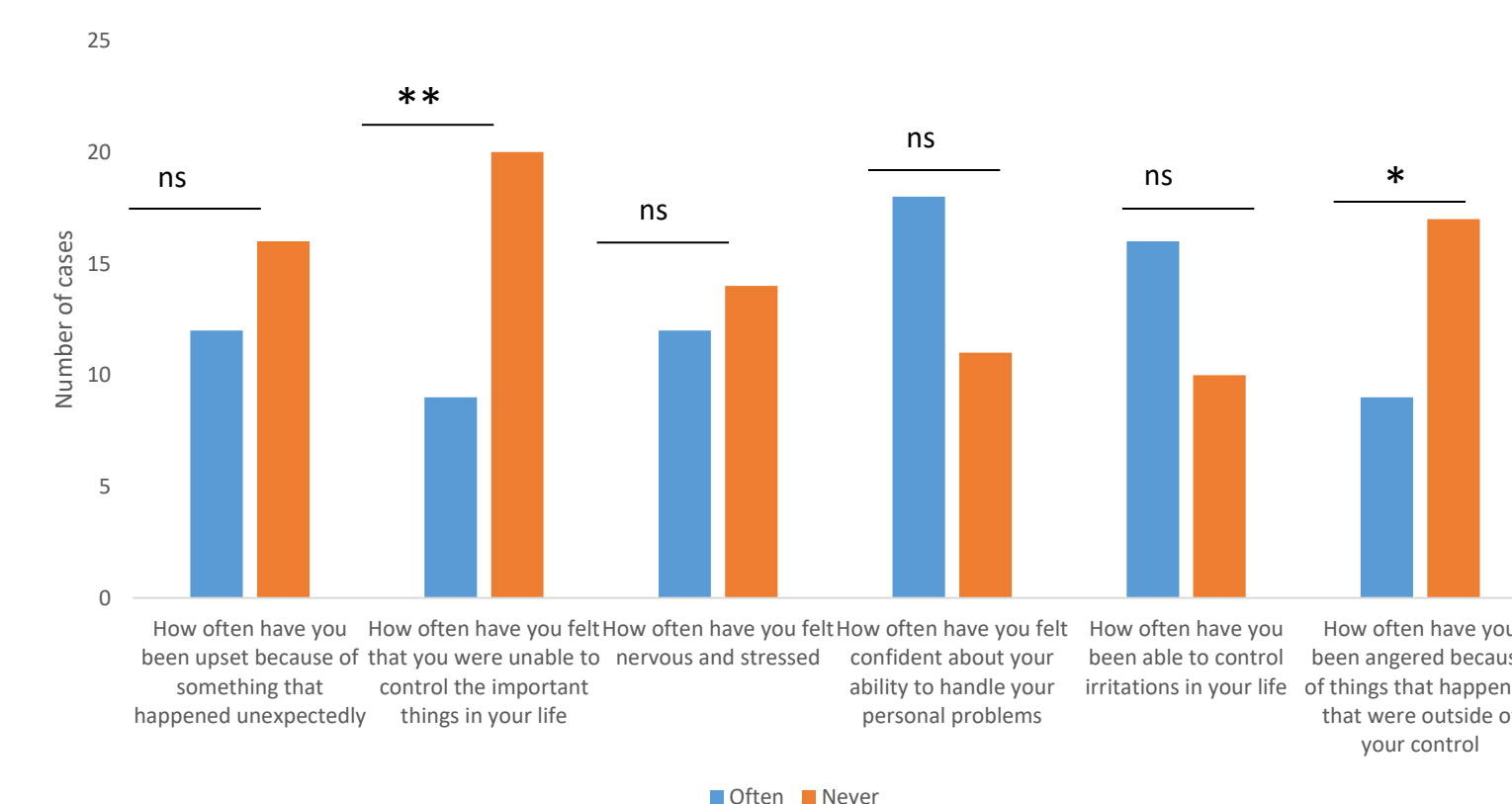
- To assess the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on children with neurometabolic disorders and their caregivers

## Results

- N=40/50 families
- Mean age of children (years) = 8.9 ± 5.07 years (range 1.5 – 21)



**Figure 2.** Parental responses (%age) to assess caregivers' burden



**Figure 3.** Parental responses to assess quality of life