

Prevalence of depression among Egyptian geriatric community

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This study was a survey to evaluate the prevalence of the depression in the elderly community. The study revealed that the overall depression prevalence was 52.1% mainly of the minor type (36.1%). This high prevalence may be due to the absence of health insurance system serving the elderly and lack of medical and psychosocial rehabilitation program in addition to decreased financial income and pension. There was a significant correlation between depression and lack of care-giver lost marital life and pensionless state. Also, there was the same correlation with physical illnesses such as CNS, CVS, respiratory, musculoskeletal and visual impairment. The functional and mental impairments were highly correlated with depression. Psychological symptoms such as irritability, crying spells, fatigability and sadness were the predominant features of depression in elderly.