

Prestroke life events and difficulties : An Egyptian study

Muhammad, Afaf. Nassef, A.

Ain-Shams Univ., Cairo (EGY). Fac. of Med.

**Ain-Shams International Congress in Psychiatry : Towards Global Patient's Care. 3rd. Luxor (EGY).
Mar 5-6, 2007**

Life events and difficulties schedule (LEDS) was used for the assessment of life events and difficulties during the six months preceding the onset of cerebrovascular stroke. The LEDS (with its new version including the new hierarchical set of ratings of events to rate humiliation and/or entrapment) was used in 60 patients with first ever stroke in their lives. Fifty healthy controls of matched age and sex were interviewed by LEDS about the preceding six months. Both stroke patients and controls reported events and difficulties with comparable rates, with no statistically significant difference between the two groups. Stroke patients significantly reported more severe events and difficulties than the control subjects. Severe events involved being humiliated or trapped had higher rate in stroke patients with no or less risk factors than those with more risk factors for stroke, especially in the week preceding the onset. Therefore, it seems that severe life events, especially those involving humiliation and/or entrapment, may be one of the risk factors for stroke development.