

Psychiatric disorders in El-Menia primary care units

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The objective of this study was to detect the prevalence and effect on quality of life together with the aspects of abnormal illness behavior of psychiatric disorders in primary care units in El-Menia Governorate.

The study was done in two sites : A primary Care Unit and the General Medicine Outpatient Clinic of the University Hospital.

One thousand randomly chosen individuals were assessed. History related to sociodemographics and life events were collected. PHQ, RAND, IBQ, axis IV of the DSM-IV and social scale were applied on them. The results showed that psychiatric disorders and subsyndromes were present in about 18.9% of the primary care sample and 23.8% of the internal medicine out-patient clinic sample. Sub-syndromes represent a significant proportion (about 50%) of all psychiatric cases. Depression was the most common psychiatric disorder. Co-morbidity was common. The impact of psychiatric disorders and sub-syndromes on the quality of life and help seeking behavior is significant and marked.