

Characteristics of obsessive compulsive disorder detected through rural population screening

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Current Psychiatry. Ain Shams University (Print)

2003 v10 n1

This study aimed to screen for obsessive compulsive symptoms (OCS) and disorder in a rural population in Egypt, compare the family function of OCD subjects with a control non-patient group as well as to compare the community detected subjects with OCD with a sample of outpatients with OCD. The study involved a cluster sample of 1400 subjects selected from 58 hamlets of Al-Mahsama Village by simple random sampling. Trained nurses living and working in the same community screened the 1400 subjects, under close supervision by the authors, for OCS using a 5-question screening tool. The 49 subjects with OCD and 146 controls were subjected to an assessment of family function. The community subjects with OCD were compared with 24 outpatient subjects with OCD regarding the sociodemographics, descriptive obsessions and compulsions, family history of similar and other psychiatric disorders and co-morbidity. The results were presented in details.