

Somatization disorder among medical outpatients in Zagazig University Hospital

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Patients presenting to the Outpatient General Medical Clinic of Zagazig University Hospital over a three months period were involved in this study.

Patients were subjected to general medical history and examination and needed investigations to diagnose organic cases. Patients who had no genuine physical illness were subjected to composite international diagnostic interview (CIDI) to screen for somatoform disorders. Patients who had somatization disorder were subjected to semi-structured interview to diagnose somatization disorder according to DSM-IV diagnostic criteria. The study concluded that somatization patients are common among medical patients.