

Mood disorder : Comparative study between old and young age depressed patients

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This study aimed to compare the sociodemographic background, depression severity and cognitive deterioration pattern in elderly depressed with young depressed patients.

Sixty cases of both sexes, half of them above the age of 50. Each case subjected to history taking using Ain-Shams psychiatry interview sheet, physical examination and psychiatric examination.

Diagnosis of depression according to ICD-10 criteria and Hamilton rating scale for the severity of depression. Also, ICD-10 checklist for mental disorders, a comprehensive battery of standard neuropsychological tests for measuring of cognitive functioning including subsets of Wechsler memory scale- revised WMS-R test, and Vigil continuous performance test were administrated. A comparable control groups consisted of 60 volunteers apparently healthy of both sexes was included in this study.

The study results showed a significant difference between depressed elderly and depressed young patients in some cognitive functions for memory and attention, also in some sociodemographic data, and in severity of depression also there was a highly significant statistical difference as regards age and age of onset of the illness.