

# **Relation of physically aggressive behavior to depression among demented patients**

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The aim of this study was to determine the frequency of physically aggressive behavior in patients with dementia and its relationship to depression. Fifty patients with DSM-IV-defined dementia recruited over a period of six months from the Geriatric Department Clinic and the Memory Clinic of the Institute of Psychiatry, Ain Shams University Hospital in Cairo, underwent comprehensive neuropsychiatric evaluation and were rated on the Cornell Scale for Depression in Dementia, the Mini-Mental State Examination Scale, the Activities of Daily Living Scale, and the General Medical Health Rating Scale. Physically aggressive behavior was exhibited by 27 patients in the 2 weeks before evaluation.

Aggressive behavior was highly statistically significantly associated with depression. It was also found to be associated with hallucinations, sleep disturbance, and severity of cognitive impairment. There was no statistical significant association between physically aggressive behavior and the presence of delusions, male gender, and impairment in activities of daily living.