

A validation study of GMS/AGECAT in the diagnosis of dementia in elderly Egyptian sample

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This study was a coordinated attempt to validate the Geriatric Mental State in Egypt with close attention to training, translation and cultural adaptation of the interview schedule. They estimated the sensitivity [%] for dementia of the GMS/AGECAT (The Geriatric Mental State Assessment supported by Automated Geriatric Examination for Computer Assisted Taxonomy) organicity diagnosis [level three or greater] and their false positive rates [%], among those with depression and in the high and low education control groups.

140 subjects were divided into four groups :Mild to moderate dementia N=50 (26% had high education), depression; N=30 (20% had high education), subjects with high levels of education are cognitively normal N=30 and subjects with low levels of education are cognitively normal N=30.

The following were administered to every Participant ; clinical dementia rating scale, ten-word list learning task, the community screening instrument for dementia, geriatric depression scale and the geriatric mental state assessment supported by automated geriatric examination for computer assisted taxonomy. In the present study, the GMS was validated against the CDR, it was noted that the correlation was pretty good. GMS sensitivity was 84%, specificity was 97.78% and false positive rate was 2.22. Furthermore, the ability of the GMS to detect sub-cases may have a useful application in helping to predict future cases of dementia but this was difficult to identify on cross-sectional testing.