

Memory impairment and its relation to other cognitive dysfunctions in a sample of depressed patients

El-Amin, H.

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The aim of this study to show the effect of depression on memory and if this effect results from the associated cognitive impairment or it occurs as a separate process.

A sample of 50 patients diagnosed as depression according to DSM IV TR criteria.

They undergo psychometric assessment of Mini-mental state examination, Beck depression Inventory, Luria Nebraska Neuropsychological Battery, Wechsler memory scale and Hamilton anxiety scale. Then memory impairment was compared by cognitive impairment in various types of depression. Results showed that some of depressive disorders affect memory beyond the level of cognitive impairment, especially the major depressive type and the dysthymia.

Cognitive functions were found to be significantly impaired with the presence of melancholic and psychotic features more than memory impairment bipolar depression has a profound effect on both cognition and memory to the same degree. While in adjustment disorder and dysthymia, cognitive and memory impairment were found to be impaired than in major depression. The association of anxiety was found to affect the degree of cognitive and memory impairment.