

Suicidal attempts, suicidal tendency and social support in individuals with depressive disorders

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This work tried to assess the suicidal attempts in a sample of depressed patients; to measure suicidal tendency and social support in those patients and to detect possible relationship between suicidal tendency and social support. Methods One hundred individuals with depressive disorders diagnosed according to the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual Fourth Edition (DSM-IV) were subjected to a screen using the Suicidal Tendency Scale (STS) and the Perceived Social Support Scale (PSSS). Results Thirty five percent of the individuals included in the study had attempted suicide during the course of their illness. More than half of those who attempted suicide (19 out of 35) did that more than one time. As the severity of depression increased suicidal attempts also increased. Male patients, divorced, those with higher scores for suicidal ideations and hostility were more likely to attempt suicide. Finally, a negative correlation was found between scores on the Suicidal Tendency Scale and the Perceived Social Support Scale.