

Combined presentation of depression and demential behaviour among elderly patients

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Forty-five elderly patients presenting with depression and demential behavior and 20 young adults presenting with depression were studied. Depression was identified in 53%, 42% and 73% of the geriatric sample using psychiatric interview, Beck Depression Inventory and the Multidimensional Observation Scale for Elderly Subjects (MOSES), respectively. Depressive pseudodementia was found in 8.9% of geriatric sample. Depression and demential behavior occurred together in about 1/5 - 1/2 of the geriatric sample (using interview and MOSES). Depression was found to decrease in frequency as dementia was more severe.