

Survey of Depression in the Elderly Patients with Congestive Heart Failure

Bum-Sung Choi M.D., Ph.D. ¹, Hwa-Young Lee M.D., Ph.D. ²

1. Department of Psychiatry, Pusan National University Yangsan Hospital, Korea

2. Department of Psychiatry, College of Medicine, Soonchunhyang University, Korea

Author for correspondence: leehway@gmail.com

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Objectives

Depression is commonly comorbid in the elderly patients with physical illness.

This study examined the prevalence of depression in the elderly with congestive heart failure (CHF).

Background

Depression is the most common emotional disorder in the elderly.

Depression occurring in old age shows different clinical features than adult. Especially, depression is more frequent in elderly people with chronic diseases such as Congestive Heart Failure.

Materials and Methods

The forty-seven patients with CHF were enrolled. The subjects are over 60 years old.

The medical and psychiatric history, Hamilton Rating Scale for Depression (HDRS), Patient Health Questionnaire-9 (PHQ-9), Geriatric Depression Scale-Short form Korean (GDS-SF-K), Mini-Mental Status Exam Korean version (MMSE-KC) were investigated.

Results and Conclusions

The prevalence of depression was estimated to be 25.5% (male 15.4% ; female 38.0%) in HDRS, 36.1% (male 38.5% ; female 33.3%) in PHQ-9, 36.1% (male 38.5% ; female 33.3%) in GDS-SF-K.

The prevalence of elderly depression with CHF ranged from about 25% to 40%, consistent with previous studies.

The self-reporting scale, such as GDS-SF-K, PHQ-9 and PHQ-2 is the effective screening test of depression.

KEY WORDS

Elderly depression, Prevalence, Self-reporting scale, Congestive Heart Failure,

Table. Prevalence of depression in patients with CHF stratified by gender, age, educational and living arrangement of the subjects

	CHF					
	HDRS		PHQ-9		GDS-SF-K	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Gender						
M	4	15.4	10	38.5	10	38.5
F	8	38.0	7	33.3	7	33.3
Total	12	25.5	17	36.1	17	36.1
AGE						
-60	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
60-64	1	20.0	1	20.0	0	0.0
65-69	2	22.2	2	22.2	4	44.4
70-74	2	15.4	6	46.2	4	30.8
75-79	5	35.7	6	42.9	7	50.0
80-	2	33.3	2	33.3	2	33.3
Education						
0	5	38.5	6	46.2	7	53.8
1-6	4	18.2	6	27.3	6	27.3
7-9	2	50.0	2	50.0	2	50.0
10-12	1	25.0	2	50.0	2	50.0
13-16	0	0.0	1	33.3	0	0.0
17-	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Living						
Alone	3	42.9	2	28.6	2	28.6
W spouse	5	17.9	11	39.3	9	32.1
W/o spouse	4	33.3	4	33.3	6	50.0

HDRS: Hamilton Rating Scale for Depression, PHQ-9: Patient health questionnaire-9, GDS-SF-K: Geriatric Depression Scale-Short Form-Korea,

