

**Depression and depressive disorder: a study using DSM 111-R criteria.  
MD (Family Medicine) - 1992**

**D 93**

The objectives were, to estimate the prevalence of depressive phenomena, to identify demographic risk factors, observe phenomenology and assess severity. The prevalence rate of depressive disorder was 7.7 per cent. Elderliness (55 year), female sex, widowhood, low education, being a housewife, low occupation in the male and economic unproductivity emerged as significant risk factors. Subtyping by DSM-III-R criteria showed that moderate major depressive episode was the commonest and major depressive episode with psychotic features the least common. Pain and dyspepsia were the most common presenting symptoms and multiple symptoms, as well as multiple organ involvement were characteristic features of the depressive studies. While affective and vegetative symptoms were typical, cognitive symptoms of depression were infrequent. Hypochondriasis and anxiety too, were very common. Severity assessment by subtyping showed that 60 per cent to be moderately or severely depressed, 66 per cent of the depressives were found to be incapacitated functionally to a moderate degree at least by global assessment of functioning scale criteria. By Hamilton depression scale criteria 53 per cent were severely depressed, while 40 per cent were moderately and 7 per cent mildly depressed. The respective Beck depression inventory figures were 26 per cent, 32 per cent and 42 per cent validity and reliability of the findings, limitation and implication of the conclusion are discussed.