

P-1019 - MENTAL HEALTH IN LATE-LIFE. DATA FROM AN ITALIAN POPULATION-BASED STUDY

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Background: Technological and medical progresses stimulated a worldwide demographic transition with a high socio-economic impact. The *Mental Health in Older People Consensus* suggests that elderly mental health deserve attention from a research and a public health perspective.

Aims: To investigate mental disorders in a population-based sample of persons aged 75+ living in Faenza (Northern Italy).

Methods: The Cambridge Mental Disorders of the Elderly Examination (CAMDEX) (Roth, 1986) was administered to 462 elderly (or/and their proxies/informants). Cognitive functions were tested using CAMDEX-Cognitive section (CAMCOG) and dementia diagnoses were achieved according to DSM-IV criteria. Among cognitively intact individuals, depression was diagnosed based on DSM-IV and ICD-10 criteria. Presence of general anxiety disorder was evaluated using the Geriatric Anxiety Inventory Short Form (GAI-sf) (Byrne, 2011).

Results: Dementia prevalence was 19.1% (95% Confidence Intervals: 16-23%). Even if only eight (2.2%) participants were affected by a major depressive episode (DSM-IV criteria), one out of four participants was clinically diagnosed as being depressed when ICD-10 criteria were applied: mild-moderate- and severe-depression prevalence was 16.4% (95%CI: 12.6-20.2%); 7.5% (95%CI: 4.8-10.2%); 1.1 (95%CI: 0.04-2.2%) respectively. Furthermore 20 (5.4%) participants complained sub-threshold depressive symptoms. Three persons had psychotics' symptoms (two were depressed). Fifty-one participants (11.0%) felt that living was not worthy (95%CI: 8.0-14.0%) and 29 (7.0%) had suicidal thoughts (95%CI: 4.0-8.0%). Anxiety affected the 18.6% of the sample (95%CI: 14.0-22.0%). Depression and anxiety co-occurred in 36 persons (10.2% of the total population).

Conclusions: At least one mental disorder is diagnosable in one out of two community-dwelling elderly.