

Clinical aspects of depression in general medicine patients Aspectos clinicos de la depresion en pacientes de medicina general.

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The prevalence and clinical characteristics of depression were studied in 110 randomly chosen patients attending a general medicine outpatient facility. Two psychiatrists evaluated depression according to DSM-III-R criteria and measured the intensity of depression using the Hamilton scale. 25 cases were diagnosed as Mood disorders and 8 as Adaptative disorders. Depression was minor in all cases. Anxiety and somatic complaints were the main symptoms. The influence of the classification system used, demographic and seasonal factors are discussed.