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Screening for Depression: Systematic Evidence Review

By U. S. Department of Health and Human Services

CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform. Paperback. Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. 218 pages. Dimensions: 11.0in. x 8.5in. x 0.5in. Depressive disorders are common, chronic, and costly. Lifetime prevalence levels from community-based surveys range from 4.9 to 17.1. In primary care settings, the prevalence of major depression is 6 to 8. Longitudinal studies suggest that about 80% of individuals experiencing a major depressive episode will have at least 1 more episode during their lifetime, with the rate of recurrence even higher if minor or sub-threshold episodes are included. Approximately 12% of patients who experience depression will have a chronic, unremitting course. The substantial public health and economic significance of this chronic illness is reflected by the considerable utilization of health care visits and tremendous monetary costs: 43 billion (1990 dollars) annually, with 17 billion of that resulting from lost work days. The burden of suffering from depression is substantial. Suicide, the most severe of depressive sequelae, has a rate of approximately 3.5 among all cases with major depression, a risk that increases to approximately 15 in people who have required psychiatric hospitalization. The specific risk for suicide associated with depressive disorders is elevated 12- to 20-fold compared...


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