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Title: Pilot study of reliability of PHQ-9 questionnaire for evaluation of depression in hospitalized asthmatic patients

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Body: In chronic pulmonary disease patients, consideration of physical signs of illness such as difficulty breathing, etc. as well as psychiatric conditions which occur due to lack of adaptability with disease are important. In this study it was tried to evaluate a short and comprehensive questionnaire for screening for psychiatric disease and the PHQ-9 for depression and GAD-7 for anxiety were evaluated. This was a cross-sectional study with completion of questionnaire by one interviewer. All asthma patients hospitalized at Masih Daneshvari Hospital during the summer of 2011 who were able to respond to questionnaire and agreed to participate were included in the study. Demographic information was also collected. Data was entered into the computer and analyzed via SPSS 12 software. In total 20 patients participated for the pilot study with mean age of 58±18 years and 70% were female. Fifty six percent were illiterate and average years of illness were 9±5 years. Depression and anxiety was found more in women compared to men which a larger study for significance evaluation is needed. The Cronbach alpha values for PHQ-9 were 0.645 and for GAD-7 0.837. The shortness of the questionnaires makes them practical. A larger study is in progress by researchers for determining validity and reliability of the two questionnaires and comparison with the GHQ-12.