



ASSESSMENT OF FUNCTIONAL CAPACITY, LIFE SATISFACTION AND OCCURRENCE OF DEPRESSION AMONG GERIATRIC PATIENTS.

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Introduction:

The ageing process is a natural stage of human life, characterised by a gradual decline in the physical and functional capacity of the body. As a result of these changes, an individual's quality of functioning and satisfaction with life are reduced over time.



Purpose:

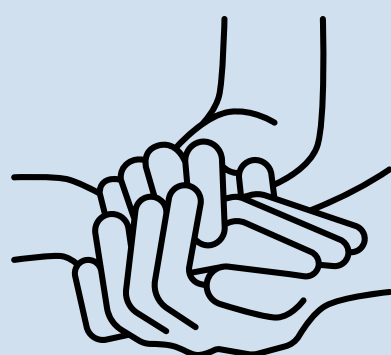
The main objective of this study is to assess the functional capacity, level of perceived satisfaction with life and the occurrence of depression among geriatric patients.

Methods:

A total of 110 patients consisting of 79 (72%) women and 31 (28%) men of geriatric age were included in the study. The following questionnaire-based research tools were used: a self-administered sociodemographic and clinical data questionnaire, the ADL Scale, the SWLS Scale and the GDS Scale.

Results:

The respondents' assessment of their functional capacity appeared to be statistically dependent on the gender and age of the patients, as well as on the number of chronic diseases they were diagnosed with, the daily number of medications they were constantly taking, and their self-assessment of satisfaction with their health. Satisfaction with life and respondents' level of depression correlated slightly or not significantly statistically with all study variables.



Conclusions:

Male gender and age > 80 years predispose to significant disability on the ADL scale. As the degree of functional capacity of the subjects increases, the number of diagnosed chronic diseases and the daily number of medications they continuously take decrease. In contrast, self-rated satisfaction with their health increases. As the degree of depression increases, the functional capacity and life satisfaction of the respondents decreases. The number of diagnosed chronic illnesses and medications taken increases as the degree of depression increases and the degree of functional capacity and life satisfaction of geriatric respondents decreases.