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**POST-STROKE DEPRESSION AND SUICIDALITY CORRELATED WITH PERSONALITY FEATURES AMONG ELDERLY PATIENTS**

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#### Introduction

Depression may occur as a result of cerebrovascular disease in a significant subpopulation of elderly persons. Recent studies indicate a high frequency of depression in older patients with cardiovascular and cerebrovascular diseases, and the possibility of a bidirectional relationship between depression and vascular disease.

#### Materials and methods

Our research included 62 post-stroke patients above age 60 undergoing post-stroke treatment in department of Neurology and 30 elderly patients who had suffered stroke one year ago and underwent psychiatric treatment. Each patient were given scales for assessment of depressive symptoms (Hamilton depression rating scale HAM-D), suicidality (Columbia suicide severity rating scale CSSR-S) and the list for assessment of borderline personality symptoms (Borderline Symptom List BSL) with examination of mental state (MMSE). These scales were given prior to antidepressant treatment and two weeks following the treatment.

#### Results

The obtained results shown positive correlation of depressive symptoms, suicidal ideation and cognitive impairment in the group of post-stroke patients in psychiatric (with higher positive correlation in women). While in the group of elderly patients in psychiatric treatment (> than 1 year) the depressive symptoms were highly correlated with positive borderline personality features and these specific personality features were highly correlated with suicidal ideation.

#### Conclusion

Our research showed how depressive symptoms are variable and highly correlated with personality features along with cognitive functioning. However, suicidal ideation was more correlated with specific personality features than depression itself. We have also concluded that concept of suicidality in the elderly seems unjustifiably neglected and should be more vigorously identified.