Article: 1420
Topic: 44 - Cultural Psychiatry

# PATIENT'S LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY AND INPATIENT DEPRESSION TREATMENT

***I. Bermejo***[1], *L. Kristion*[2], *M. Härter*[2]

[1]Celenus Kliniken GmbH, Offenburg, [2]Universitätsklinikum Hamburg-Eppendorf, Hamburg, Germany

**Objective:** To analyze process and outcome quality of inpatient depression treatment depending on German language proficiency.
**Method:** Documentation of patients in 24 psychiatric hospitals in Baden-Württemberg (South Germany). The following three groups were matched according to age, gender, and education: native German speakers, non-native speakers with good German proficiency, and non-native speakers with limited German proficiency (67 in each group).
**Results:** Germans received more group psychotherapy than the other two groups (p=.003). No differences were found regarding pharmacotherapy. Non-native speakers with limited German proficiency were discharged an average of 19 days earlier than German speakers and 7 days earlier than non-native speakers with good German proficiency (p=.02). Compared to Germans, twice as many non-native patients with good German proficiency and nearly four times as many patients with limited German proficiency were discharged with depressive symptoms (p=.006).
**Conclusion:** Results confirm the significance of linguistic factors for the effectiveness of treatment of depressive patients and show a direct impact of linguistic factors on length of hospitalization.

https://doi.org/10.1016/S0924-9338(13)76455-1 Published online by Cambridge University Press