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Title: Evaluation of the depression and their symptoms in tuberculosis patients at Marrakech

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Body: Background: The tuberculosis (TB) is a still a major health problem in morocco. It had also an impact on the psychological side of patients. Objective: To evaluate the prevalence of depression in Tuberculosis patients. Patients and methods: This prospective study was included 38 new cases who consulting in a specialized TB center. The diagnosis of depression was raised by DSM IV. Patients who presents neuropsychiatric diseases and who had a tumor localisation in a central nervous system were excluded. Results: There were 21 men and 17 women. The average age was 41 years (from 16 to 73 years). Fifty five percents had a pulmonary tuberculosis versus 45 % had an extra-pulmonary form of tuberculosis. The depression was found in 57% cases. The most common symptoms were the depressed mood, the reduction of interest and pleasure and the concentration disorders in 63% of women and 37% of men. The anti tuberculosis treatment was 2 months with streptomycin, rifampicin, isoniasid and pyrazinamid followed by two months with only rifampicin and isoniasid for pulmonary TB and the same regimen without streptomycin for extra-pulmonary form. The evolution was marked in the term of treatment by disappearance of clinical signs in 42 cases, a stabilisation in 15% and 43 % of patients were addressed to psychiatrist after eliminating of eventual effect of anti tuberculosis chemotherapy especially the isoniasid. Conclusion: The prevalence of depression is higher in tuberculosis patients. The screening of these disorders is required to improve the compliance, the prognosis and to fight tuberculosis in endemic countries.