

# Levels of Depression and Treatment Gap Overview in 3 Regions in Indonesia

Lely Indrawati\*<sup>1</sup>, Indri Yunita Suryaputri<sup>1</sup>, Nikson Sitorus<sup>1</sup>  
<sup>1</sup>Center for Research and Development of Public Health Efforts  
 NIHRD, MoH Indonesia

Indonesia

[lelyindra@gmail.com](mailto:lelyindra@gmail.com)

## I. INTRODUCTION

**Abstract**---Depression was one of the leading cause number of person lived with disability and related to premature death. Most depression first occurred in young age. Attention needs to be given to mental health problems in Indonesia starting from the young. **Objective:** To analyze the relation between level of depression and demographic and socio-economic factors. Another purpose were to get the description of treatment seeking and the reasons not taking medical treatment. **Method:** The study was cross-sectional studies in 3 districts/cities in Indonesia. Depression measurement was used the MINI (The Mini-International Neuropsychiatric Interview) instrument, analyzed the level of depression was used the ICD-10 guide to Classification of Mental and Behavioral Disorder Diagnostic criteria for research. **Result:** Participants were 2,173, 8.5% had depression in the last 2 weeks. If measured further, the proportion of mild depression was 3.4% and 8.5% the classified category of moderate to severe depression. There is a significant correlation between the variables of age, marital status, education, and socio-economic status with the level of depression ( $p < 0.05$ ). There were around 66.3% who suffered depression were not seeking medical treatment with main reason felt depressed were not need treated. Of those who were depressed and seek medical treatment there were around 76.5% who prefer went to Puskesmas/clinics/general practitioner practices to seek medical treatment. **Conclusion:** Demographic and socioeconomic were correlated with depression except gender and occupation variables. The women had job with low income more tendency was depressed. It should to be of particular concern. The people who were depressed were not seek medical treatment, most of them had main reason that depression no need to be treated medically.

**Keywords:** *depression, level of depression, treatment seeking*

Globally, depression is the top ten major cause of the large number of years a person lives with disabilities (years lived with disability).<sup>1</sup> Furthermore, depression was one of the mental disorders that was the cause of premature death of suicide, the number of sufferers is estimated to exceed 322 million in 2015, most of whom live in the Asian region.<sup>2</sup> The magnitude of the number, attention should be given to mental health problems.

The study results of research and publications sourced from the Global Burden Disease (GBD) study in 2000, 2010 and 2015 conducted by WHO stated that the prevalence of depression in the global population was 4.4%, more commonly found in women at 5.1% and in men male by 3.6%, mostly in adults to the elderly at 7.5% (age 55-74 years) and also have begun to exist in younger and lower levels of adolescence<sup>2</sup>. In line with the results of the WHO study in 2017 a systematic study of 116 literature on the prevalence of depression, the results were more or less the same, global prevalence of depression was 4.7% (4.4-5.0%).<sup>3</sup>

Measurement of depression in Indonesian national survey (Basic Health Research/Riskesdas) in 2018 using The Mini-International Neuropsychiatric Interview (M.I.N.I)<sup>4</sup> and get a national prevalence of depression for people aged over 15 years was 6.1%.<sup>5</sup> The highest number was 12.3% in Central Sulawesi Province at and the lowest was 1.4% in Jambi Province. Based on that survey, people who were depressed diagnose in the last 2 weeks, only 9% were medically treated. That means, there were still around 90% of those who were depressed not taking medication or taking medical drugs.

There was still gaps in the number and distribution mental health workers in Indonesia. Indonesia has 51 mental hospitals in 27 of 34 provinces.<sup>6</sup> Based on health workers, the psychiatric ratio was 0.29 per 100,000 populations, only higher from Laos and Myanmar in the Southeast Asian region.<sup>7</sup> In addition, only 32.5% of government general hospitals had mental services and only 8.1% had mental inpatient services.<sup>8</sup> Based on this data, in this analysis we have seen how the levels of depression correlate with

demographic and socio-economic factors, and how the description of treatment seeking and the reasons why they had not taking medical treatment.

## II. MATERIAL AND METHOD

### A. Procedure

Cross sectional design was used for this study. The population study was aged over 15 years in Bogor City (West Java Province), Jombang Regency (East Java Province), and Tojo Una-una Regency. Samples were individuals aged over 15 years both male and female elected in their region.

Sampling was carried out by stratified random sampling<sup>9</sup>. In each regency / city has grouped sub-districts based on proportion people who were depressed so that the districts had depression below and above average. Amount of sub-districts were randomly proportional selected. From each of these sub-districts, one village selected by random. Sampling frame was obtained in each sub village, then a number of households and individuals are randomly selected.

Inclusion criteria were men and women aged 15 years or more who live as permanent residents in sub-districts in the selected provinces. Exclusion criteria were experiencing severe memory and communication difficulties so that they cannot provide information or answers that represent themselves accurately. The measurement tool was assessed by MINI, especially the sub-themes Depression in the last 2 weeks measured 10 questions using yes or no answered. For gaps treatment seeking additional 2 questions.

The purpose of this analysis was to know correlation between the level of depression and demographic and socio-economic factors. Besides that, we also want to get an idea how to seek treatment and what the reason were not used medical treatment. The Demographic and economic factors were age, sex, marital status, education, employment and family economic status.

### B. Data Analysis

Proportion of depression was obtained by MINI-depressed instruments had frame time in the last 2 weeks used 10 questions (Yes / No). The answer was aggregated following the MINI analysis guide into 2 categories, depression and no depression. While the level of depression was analyzed used the ICD-10 Classification of Mental and Behavioral Disorder Diagnostic criteria for research guidelines,<sup>10</sup> criteria into 3 categories were no depression, mild depression, and moderate to severe depression.

Demographics and economic were independent variables, that it affects the dependent variable. Demographic variables consist of age, sex, marital status, education and job. Age of respondent divided into 3 group categories, namely the young age group (15-24 years), productive (25-60 years) and the old age group (over 60 years). Marital status divided into 3 categories, namely single, married and separated / divorced (dead & alive).

The education was the subject has achieved highest education, divided into 3 groups, first who was not pass from elementary school included never formal education, second who have finished junior or senior high school, and those who have completed their first diploma or above. The Job was subjects had activity for make money, divided into 3 categories, namely subjects whose daily activities has not produced the money (housewives included), subjects who had entrepeneurial work or private jobs or government employee, and subjects who the work of farmers / fishermen / laborers.

The economic status was ownership of houses and household items in family. Economic status divided into 3 groups, namely the high (rich) group, the moderate (capable) group, and the low (poor) group. Principal Component Analysis<sup>11</sup> was used for clustered socioeconomic status. The proportion of medical treatment was asked if the subject had at least one symptom of depression (total 10 questions) and they were made self-medication or visit to health facility.

## III. RESULTS

The proportion of depression and the level of depression who people above 15 years old in Bogor City, Jombang Regency and Tojo Una-Una Regency were seen in Table 1 and Figure 1.

TABLE 1: PREVALENCE OF DEPRESSION IN THE LAST 2 WEEKS IN 3 REGIONS, INDONESIA 2017

Depression Status	%	n=2,173
Yes	8.5	184
No	91.5	1,989

Based on interviewed 2,173 participant in three regions in Indonesia used MINI instrument, the proportion depression was 8.5%. While if analyzed based on the level of depression used ICD-10 guide for Research, the proportion became 8.9% which was 5.5% moderate to severe depression and was 3.4% mild depression (Figure 1).

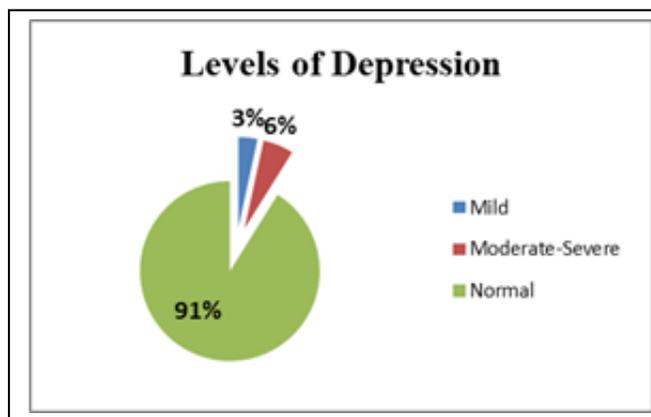


Figure 1. Levels of Depression in 3 Districts / Cities in Indonesia in 2017

The 2,173 participant data were analyzed after eliminating invalid or incomplete questionnaire. Most participants were productive age groups (n=1,502, 69.1%), younger adolescent age group were 370 (17%), and elderly age group were 301 (13.9%). Analyzed by sex, women were more than men (40.7%). Marital status of participants were married (72.9%), single (17.5%) and divorced (9.6%).

Participant reported almost half had graduated junior and high school (46.7%); graduated first diploma and above (34.5%); and never school until not completed primary school (18.8%). The percentage of participants had not worked was 39.7% (included housewives), while 36.8 percent participants profession as farmer or fishermen or labor worker and other informal; 23.5 percent work as entrepreneur or civil servants or private sectors. More than half the participants (63.2%) with socioeconomic moderate, 35.4 percent poor, and 1.4% reported rich people. (Table 2)

**TABLE 2. UNIVARIATE ANALYSIS RESULTS CHARACTERISTICS IN 3 AREAS IN 2017**

Characteristics	%	n=2173
Age Group		
15-24 years	17	370
25-60 years	69.1	1,502
> 60 years	13.9	301
Sex		
Male	40.7	884
Female	59.3	1,289
Marital Status		
Single	17.5	380
Married	72.9	1,585
Divorce (life/death)	9.6	208
Education		
Not graduated primary school	18.8	409
Graduated from junior high school	46.7	1,015
Graduated from D1+	34.5	749
Job		
Not working	39.7	863
Self-employed/private/civil servants	23.5	510
Farmer/fishermen/labor/other	36.8	800
Social Economic		
Rich	1.4	30
Moderate	63.2	1,373
Poor	35.4	770

*A. Correlate Level of Depression with Social Demographic*

The results of the bivariate analysis of the relationship between the characteristics of the respondents and the level of depression showed that the age group was statistically significant. This means that between age groups have different levels of depression. Based on the mild level of depression, the teenage age group had the largest proportion who experienced mild depression compared to the elderly age group and the productive age group. But at moderate to severe levels of depression, the proportion is greatest in the elderly group compared to adolescents and productive. Based on the

chi square test, there was a relationship between the age group and the level of depression of respondents with p value 0.002.

According to the relationship between marital status and the respondent's level, it is seen that those who were divorced (live / die) were more depressed, both mild, moderate to severe depression than those with married and unmarried status. Based on the chi square statistical test, there is a relationship between marital status and the level of depression of respondents with p value 0.010.

The relationship between the level of depression and education shows that there is a pattern of lower education which will make the tendency to experience moderate to severe depression. This relationship is statistically significant by looking at the value of p Chi Square of less than 0.001. In addition, socio-economic status has an influence on the occurrence of depression. Low socioeconomic (poor) respondents had a higher proportion of moderate to severe depression compared to middle and rich economies. The complete picture of all variables related to the level of depression is shown in table 3.

**TABLE 3. RESULTS OF BIVARIATE ANALYSIS OF THE CHARACTERISTICS OF RESPONDENTS WITH DEPRESSION LEVELS**

Variable	Depression			Total n	P Value
	Normal n (%)	Mild n (%)	Moderate-Severe n (%)		
Age Group					<b>0.002</b>
15-24 years	346 (93.5)	16 (4.3)	8 (2.2)	370	
25-60 years	1,373 (91.4)	45 (3.0)	84 (5.6)	1,502	
> 60 years	262 (87.0)	12 (4.0)	27 (9.0)	301	
Sex					0.093
Male	820 (92.8)	25 (2.8)	39 (4.4)	884	
Female	1,161 (90.1)	48 (3.7)	80 (6.2)	1,289	
Marital Status					<b>0.010</b>
Single	363 (95.5)	9 (2.4)	8 (2.1)	380	
Married	1,435 (90.5)	55 (3.5)	95 (6.0)	1,585	
Divorce (life/death)	183 (88.0)	9 (4.3)	16 (7.7)	208	
Education					<b>&gt;0.001</b>
Not graduated primary school	352 (86.1)	18 (4.4)	39 (9.5)	409	
Graduated from junior high school	924 (91.0)	35 (3.4)	56 (5.5)	1,015	
Graduated from D1+	705 (94.1)	20 (2.7)	24 (3.2)	749	
Job					0.131
Not working	789 (91.4)	28 (3.2)	46 (5.3)	863	
Self-employed/private/civil servants	477 (93.5)	14 (2.7)	19 (3.7)	510	
Farmer/fishermen/labor/other	715 (89.4)	31 (3.9)	54 (6.8)	800	
Social Economic					<b>0.005</b>
Rich	27 (90.0)	1 (3.3)	2 (6.7)	30	
Moderate	1,276 (92.9)	36 (2.6)	61 (4.4)	1,373	
Poor	678 (88.1)	36 (4.7)	56 (7.3)	770	

B. Treatment Seeking in People with Depression

People with at least one depression symptom were had treatment seeking that reported in this analyzed. Definition of treatment seeking were they had ever been medical cured or taking depressant medication until recovery them.

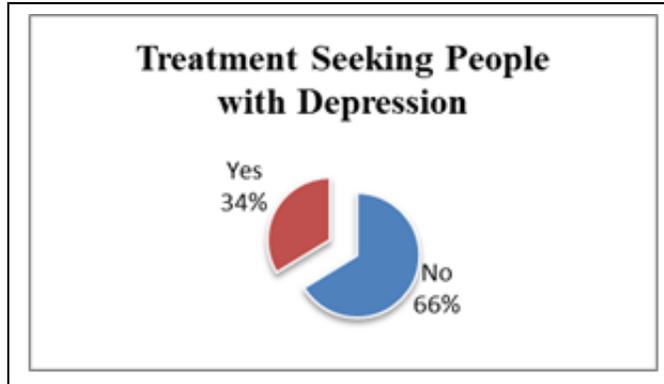


Figure 2. Proportion of Treatment Seeking in People with Depression in 3 Districts / Cities in Indonesia in 2017

Based on figured 2 most of people with depression had not to medically treatment seeking (66.3%) and only was 33.7 percent ever to seek professional to cure them. In other word, only 3 by 10 person with depression had treatment seeking behavior. Most of them decided to health public center (puskesmas) or clinic or medical general practitioners facilitates to recovery from depression. They decided mental hospitalized only was 1.5 percent. There was 15 percent chosen midwives/nurses/ Posyandu, and buying medication included to traditional healer. (Figure 3)

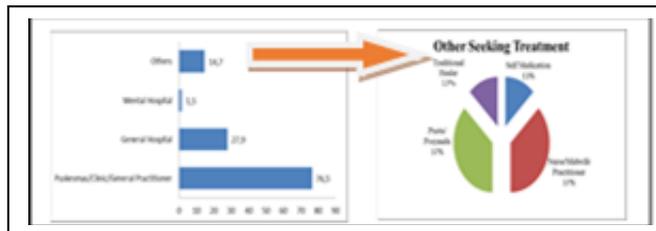


Figure 3. Type of health facilities in people with Depression in 3 districts / cities in Indonesia in 2017

People with depression but had not used medically treatment was 66.3 percent. They have many reason why they did it. Most of three by eight reason were symptoms of depression no need medication (79.2%), feeling depressed not medical sickness (38.5%), and they did not know mental health services (20.3%). The detailed was Figure 4.

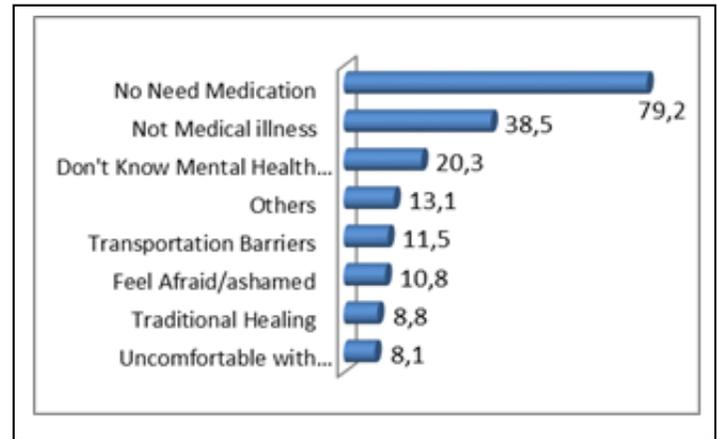


Figure 4. The reason of people with Depression not used medically treatment

IV. CONCLUSION

In this study the proportion of mild depression was 3.4% and moderate to severe depression was 5.5% in three districts/cities in Indonesia. Demographic factors such as age, marital status, education and socioeconomic status have a significant relationship with the incidence of depression. Sex and occupational variables were not statistically proven to be related to depression, but the tendency of depression was more prevalent among women and low income jobs can be of particular concern. Most people with depression do not seek medical treatment for the main reason feeling depressed did not need to be treated. Depressed people who took medical treatment mostly prefer go to puskesmas or clinics or general practitioner practices as the main place to seek medical treatment.

REFERENCES

- (1) Vos. Theo (correspondence). (2015). Global regional and national incidence, prevalence, and years lived with disability for 301 acute and chronic disease and injuries in 188 countries. 1990-2013 : a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2013.
- (2) World Health Organization (WHO). (2017). Depression and Other Common Mental Disorders: Global Health Estimates. Geneva.
- (3) Ferrari. A. J. Somerville. A. J. Baxter. A. J. Norman. R. Patten. S. B. Vos. T & Whiteford. H. A. (2013). Global variation in the prevalence and incidence of major depressive disorder: a systematic review of the epidemiological literature. *Psychological medicine*. 43(3). 471-481.
- (4) Sheehan DV. Lecrubier Y. Sheehan KH, et al. 1998. The Mini International of Neuropsychiatric Interview (MINI): The development and validation of a structured diagnostic psychiatric interview for DSM-IV and ICD\_X. *J.Clin Psychiatry*. 59/suppl 20/22-33
- (5) National Institute of Health Research and Development. 2019. Riskesdas Report Year 2019.
- (6) WHO mental health atlas-2011 country profile 2011.
- (7) WHO. Mental health atlas-2014 country profile.
- (8) Report of Health Facility Research 2011. Jakarta: National Institute of Health Research and Development. 2011.

- (9) Mubasyiroh. Rofingatul, et al. (2017). Research Report on Mental Health Studies in several regions in Indonesia. Center for Research and Development of Public Health Efforts. National Institute of Health Research and Development (Unpublished).
- (10) Maramis. A. (2007). Mini International Neuropsychiatric Interview Version ICD 10. Yayasan Depresi Indonesia v.2.2. 2. pp.1-20.
- (11) Ariawan. I. (2006). Socio-economic index Using Principal Component Analysis. *Kesmas: National Public Health Journal.* 1(2),83-87. <https://doi.org/10.21109/kesmas.v1i2.317>
- (12) Zhou. X, Bi. Bo, Zheng. Liqiang, Li. Zhao, Yang. Hongmei, Song. Hongjie, & Sun. Yingxian. (2014). The prevalence and risk factors for depression symptoms in a rural Chinese sample population. *PLoS one.* 9(6). e99692.
- (13) Vandad Sharifi. M, Hajebi. A, & Radgoodarzi. R. (2015). Twelve-month prevalence and correlates of psychiatric disorders in Iran: the Iranian Mental Health Survey. 2011. *Archives of Iranian medicine.* 18(2). 76.
- (14) Safitri. Y, and Hidayati. E. (2013). Relationship between Parenting Parents with Adolescent Depression Levels at Vocational School November 10. Semarang. *Jurnal Keperawatan Jiwa.* 1 (1).
- (15) Center for Research and Development of Public Health Efforts. (2015). Health Risk Behavior in Middle and High School Students in Indonesia. Results of the National School Based Health Survey in Indonesia.
- (16) Menberu. Melak, Mekonen. Tesfä, Ayano. Getinet, Yimer. Solomon, Getnet. Asmamaw, Belete. Amsalu, Kerie. Sitotaw, Fekadu. Wubalem. (2018). Health care seeking behavior for depression in Northeast Ethiopia: depression is not considered as illness by more than half of the participants. *Annals of General Psychiatry.* 17:34. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12991-018-0205-03>.
- (17) Thapar. A, Collishaw. S, Pine. D. S, & Thapar. A. K. (2012). Depression in adolescence. *The Lancet.* 379(9820). 1056-1067.
- (18) Beck. A, Davidson. A.J, Xu. S, Durrfee. M.J, Oronce. C.I.A, Steiner. J.F, & Havranek. E (2017). A Multilevel Analysis of Individual, Health System, and Neighborhood Factors Associated with Depression within a Large Metropolitan Area. 780-790. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11524-017-0190-x>.
- (19) Van de Velde. S, Bracke. P, & Levecque. K. (2010). Gender differences in depression in 23 European countries. Cross-national variation in the gender gap in depression. *Social science & medicine.* 71(2). 305-313.
- (20) Rosenfield S, Mouzon DM. Gender and mental health. In: Aneshensel CS, Phelan JC, editors. *Handbook of the sociology of mental health.* 2nd edition. New York: Springer; 2013, p. 277-96.d common mental disorders in low and middle income countries: a systematic review. *Social Science & Medicine.* 2010; 71:517-28.
- (21) Poongothai. S, Pradeepa. R, Indulekha. K, Surendar. J, & Mohan. V. (2015). Association of depression with common carotid artery intima media thickness and augmentation index in a large Urban South Indian population-The Chennai Urban Rural Epidemiology Study (CURES-138). *Indian journal of endocrinology and metabolism.* 19(1). 136.
- (22) Strine Tara W, Mokdad Ali H, Balluz Lina S, Gonzalez Olinda, Crider Raquel, Berry Joyce T, Kroenke Kurt. (2008). Depression and Anxiety in the United States: Findings from the 2006 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. *Psychiatric Services: ps.psychiatryonline.org.* December 2008 Vol 59 No 12.
- (23) Vaeth. P.A.C, Caetano. R, & Mills. B. A. (2016). Factors Associated with Depression Among Mexican Americans Living in U.S-Mexico Border and Non-Border Areas. *Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health.* 18(4). 718-727. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10903-015-0236-7>.
- (24) Mathias. K, Goicolea. I, Kermode. M, Singh. L, Shidaye. R, & San Sebastian. M. (2015). Cross-sectional study of depression and help-seeking in Uttarakhand, North India. *BMJ Open.* 5(11). 1-8. <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjopen-2015-008992>.
- (25) Hansen. Anne Helen, Halvorsen. Peder A, Ringberg. Unni, Forde. Olav Helge. (2012). Socio-economic inequalities in health care utilisation in Norway: a population based cross-sectional survey. *BMC Health Service Research.* 12:336. <http://www.biomedcentral.com/1472-6963/12/336>.
- (26) Ten Have. M, Oldehinkel. A, Vollebergh. W, & Ormel. J. (2003). Does educational background explain inequalities in care service use for mental health problems in the Dutch general population? *Acta Psychiatrica Scandinavica.* 107 (3). 178-187. <https://doi.org/10.1034/j.1600-0447.2003.00074.x>.
- (27) Kessler. R.C. and Bromet. E. J. (2013). The Epidemiology of Depression across cultures. DOI: 10.1146/annurev-publhealth-031912-114409.
- (28) Packness. Aake, Halling. Anders, Hastrup. Lene H, Simonsen. Erik, wehberg. Sonja, Waldorff. Frans Bosch. (2018). Socio economic position, symptoms of depression and subsequent mental healthcare treatment: a Danish register based 6-month follow-up study on a population survey. *BMJ Open;* e020945; doi: 10.1136/bmjopen-2017-020945.
- (29) Ribero Dos Santos. Edlnlza, Huang. Hsiang, Rossi Menezes. Paulo, Scazuca. Marcla. (2016). Prevalence of Depression Care for Populations Registered in Primary Care in Two Remote Cities in the Brazilian Amazon. *Plos ONE* 11(3); e0150046.doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0150046.
- (30) Paul. K. I, & Moser. K. (2009). Unemployment impairs mental health: Meta-analyses. *Journal of Vocational Behavior.* 74(3). 264-282. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jvb.2009.01.01>.
- (31) Poongothai. Subramani, Anjana. M Ranjit, Pradeepa. Rajendra, Ganeshan. Anbazaghan, Umaphaty. Nandhan, Mohan. Viswanathan. (2010). Prevalence of Depression in Relation to Glucose Intolerance in Urban South Indians-The Chennai Urban Rural Epidemiology Study (CURES-76). *Diabetes Technology & Therapeutics.* Volume 12. DOI: 10.1089/dia.2010.0081.
- (32) Choi. M. W. A. Y. (2017). Factors Associated with Perceived Depression of Korean Adults: Secondary Data from the Korean Community Health Survey. 53(3). 288-296. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10597-016-0035-1>.
- (33) Melchior. M, Chastang. J, Leclerc. A, Ribet. C, & Rouillon. F. (2010). Low socioeconomic position and depression persistence: longitudinal results from the GAZEL cohort study. *Psychiatry Research.* 177 (1-2). 92-96. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.psychres.2009.08.002>.
- (34) Strulik. H. (2018). An economic theory of depression and its impact on health behavior and longevity. *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization.* (2018). <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jebo.2018.11.022>.
- (35) Brandstetter. Susanne, Dodoo-Schittko. Frank, Speerföck. Sven, Apfelbacher. Christian, Grabe. Hans-Jorgen, Jacobi. Frank, Hapke. Ulfert, Schomerus. Georg, Baumeister. Sebastian. (2017). Trends in non-help-seeking for mental disorder in Germany between 1997-1999 and 2009-2012: a repeated cross-sectional study. *Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology.* Received: 3 January 2017/accepted: 10 April 2017 @ Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg. DOI 10.1007/s00127-017-1384-y.
- (36) Luitel. Nagendra.P, Jordans. Mark.J.D, Kohrt. Brandon.A, Rathod. Sujit.D, Komproe. Ivan.H. (2017). Treatment gap and barriers for mental health care: A cross-sectional community survey in Nepal. *PLoS ONE* 12(8): e0183223. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0183223>.