OCS

OHTN Cohort Study

March 2016

How can we improve depression screening among people living with HIV?

Key take-away messages:

➡ Depression often goes unrecognized in people living with HIV.

➡ Brief screening instruments are effective in identifying depression and could help improve diagnosis rates at HIV clinics.

Who did we look at and what did we do?

179 OCS participants were recruited from three sites.

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Participants completed the "gold standard" for identifying depression – a 15-minute M.I.N.I. interview.

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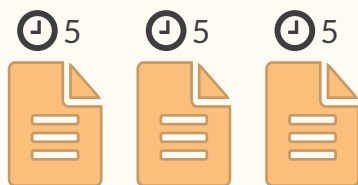
Participants also completed three shorter (five minute) screening instruments*.

We then compared results to see if the shorter instruments were as accurate as the M.I.N.I. in identifying depression.

What did we find?

The three shorter instruments accurately diagnosed depression.

These instruments can improve depression diagnosis rates among people living with HIV.

While not in widespread use across clinics today, these instruments have the potential to identify depression in people living with HIV in a manner that is more efficient for health care providers and their patients.