

# **Depresija pri bolniku z demenco**

## **Depression in patient with dementia**

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### **Izvleček**

Čeprav sta kognitivni in funkcionalni upad osnovna znaka napredajočega nevrodegenerativnega procesa, so vedenjske motnje in psihiatrični simptomi pogoste in pomembne značilnosti demence. Alzheimerjeva bolezen (AB) je glavni vzrok za demenco pri starejših, zato se vsebina prispevka v glavnem nanaša nanjo. Psihiatrične motnje prizadenejo 90 % bolnikov z Alzheimerjevo demenco in so glavni razlog za zdravljenje. Najpogostejša psihiatrična motnja je depresija, ki prizadene 50 % bolnikov. Predstavlja pomemben javnozdravstveni problem zaradi številnih resnih posledic za bolnike in negovalce.

### **Abstract**

Althrough cognitive and functional decline is the hallmark of progressive neurodegeneration, behavioral abnormalities and psychiatric symptoms are common and important characteristics of dementia. Alzheimer's disease is the principal cause of dementia in the elderly, therefore the following review closely relates to this disorder. Psychiatric disturbances affect as many as 90 % of patients with Alzheimer's disease (AD) and are a major focus of treatment. Depression is one of the most frequent psychiatric complications of AD, affecting as many as 50 % patients. In this context, depression is a significant public health problem that has a series of serious adverse consequences for patients and their caregivers.

### **UVOD**

Alzheimerjeva bolezen predstavlja velik javnozdravstveni problem, zaradi katere trenutno boluje po svetu skoraj 15 milijonov ljudi (1). Zaradi staranja populacije, daljšanja pričakovane življenske dobe, izboljšanja življenskih razmer in zaradi zdravljenja Alzheimerjeve

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