

Relative prevalence of psychological morbidity in older immigrants

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Reference:

Key Words:

mental health, psychological morbidity, characteristics

Research aim:

This study examined the rates of psychological morbidity in Australian-born elderly and three immigrant elderly groups.

Results/Conclusion:

Morbidity levels were shown to be quite variable. Italian-speaking elderly (particularly women) had the highest levels. Immigrant elderly groups of non-English speaking background tended to have higher levels of pathology than did the English-speaking group. Women were found to have higher levels of morbidity than men.

Implications:

Variable morbidity levels across groups suggest the need to examine the complex factors that may result in differential risk in various populations. There is a need for greater research attention to this area given increasing populations of elderly immigrants in many nations with long-term immigration programmes.

Cultural Group(s):

English-speaking, Italian-speaking, Macedonian-speaking, Spanish-speaking

Location of study:

Age group:

Elderly people

Number included in study:

N/A

Type of participants:

Australia-born and immigrant elderly groups

Research approach:

Quantitative

Type of data:

Primary

Secondary data sources used:

Specific scales or analytical techniques used:

General Health Questionnaire-28, the Rosenberg Self-Esteem Scale

Implications/ Recommendations:

Notes:

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