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(57) Abstract :

Abstract: Major Depression Disorder (MDD), commonly known as depression, is a prevalent psychiatric condition worldwide, affecting over 300 million individuals according to the World Health Organization. It stands as a leading cause of disability globally, with a projected increase in its burden by 2030, particularly in high-income countries. Despite its impact, depression is identified as one of the most preventable disorders, with early recognition and treatment offering significant improvements in outcomes. However, limited provisions and services hinder early detection and intervention efforts. While validated laboratory tests exist for diagnosing depression, such as the Beck Depression Inventory-II and the Patient Health Questionnaire-9, diagnoses predominantly rely on self- or family reports. Moreover, the use of social networks like Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram has become ubiquitous, providing a unique avenue for data collection and analysis. These platforms offer insights into user preferences, behaviors, and attitudes, making them potential tools for identifying individuals at risk of depression. Additionally, social networks serve as vital platforms for individuals to seek support and connect with peers, offering a comfortable emotional distance for sharing experiences. Leveraging these platforms for mental health interventions holds promise for early identification and support provision. In conclusion, depression represents a significant global health challenge, with early intervention being crucial for minimizing its impact. While traditional diagnostic methods rely heavily on self-reporting, emerging opportunities in data analytics through social networks offer new avenues for early detection and intervention. Embracing these technologies alongside existing diagnostic tools can enhance efforts to combat depression and improve public health outcomes.

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