



Anedonia e invecchiamento nel paziente con depressione

Il paziente anziano con depressione:
sintomi, trattamento e strategie di switch

Umberto Albert

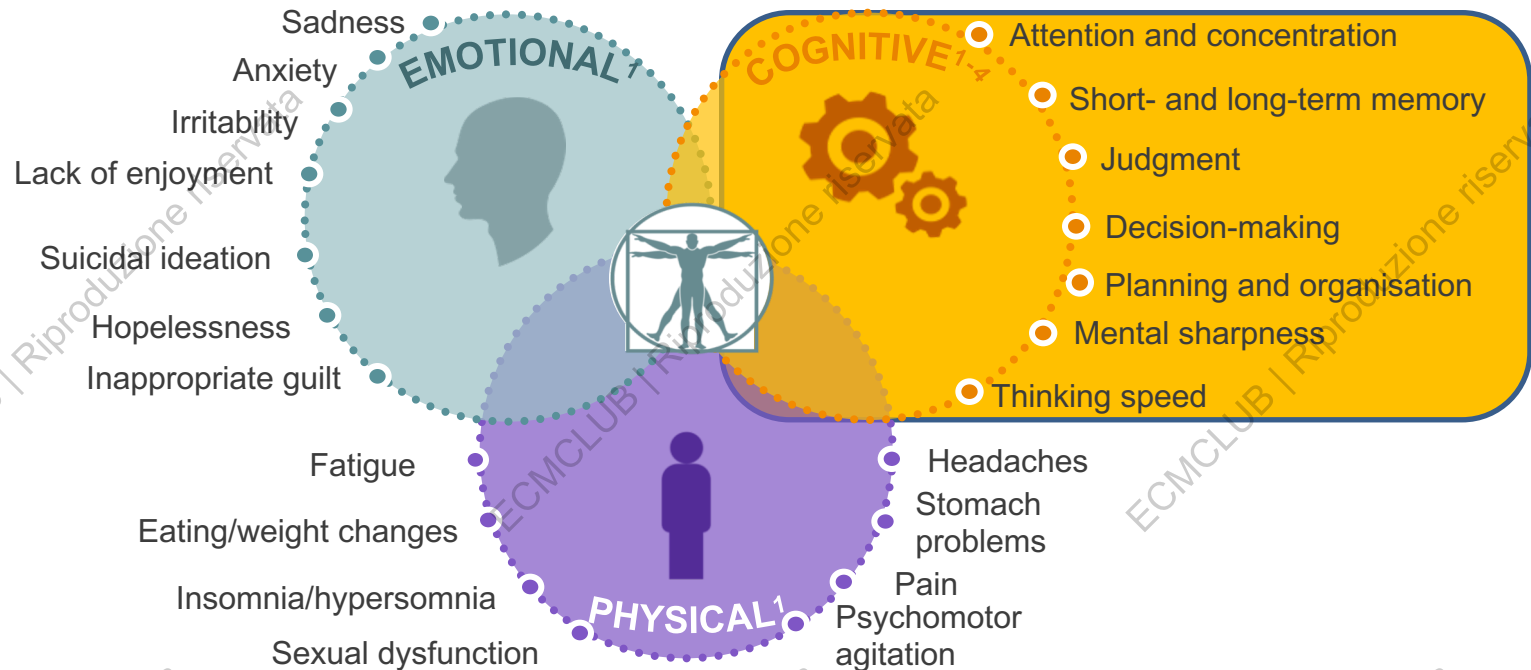


UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI TRIESTE

Dipartimento Universitario Clinico di
Scienze Mediche Chirurgiche e della Salute



Depression is a clinically heterogeneous disorder



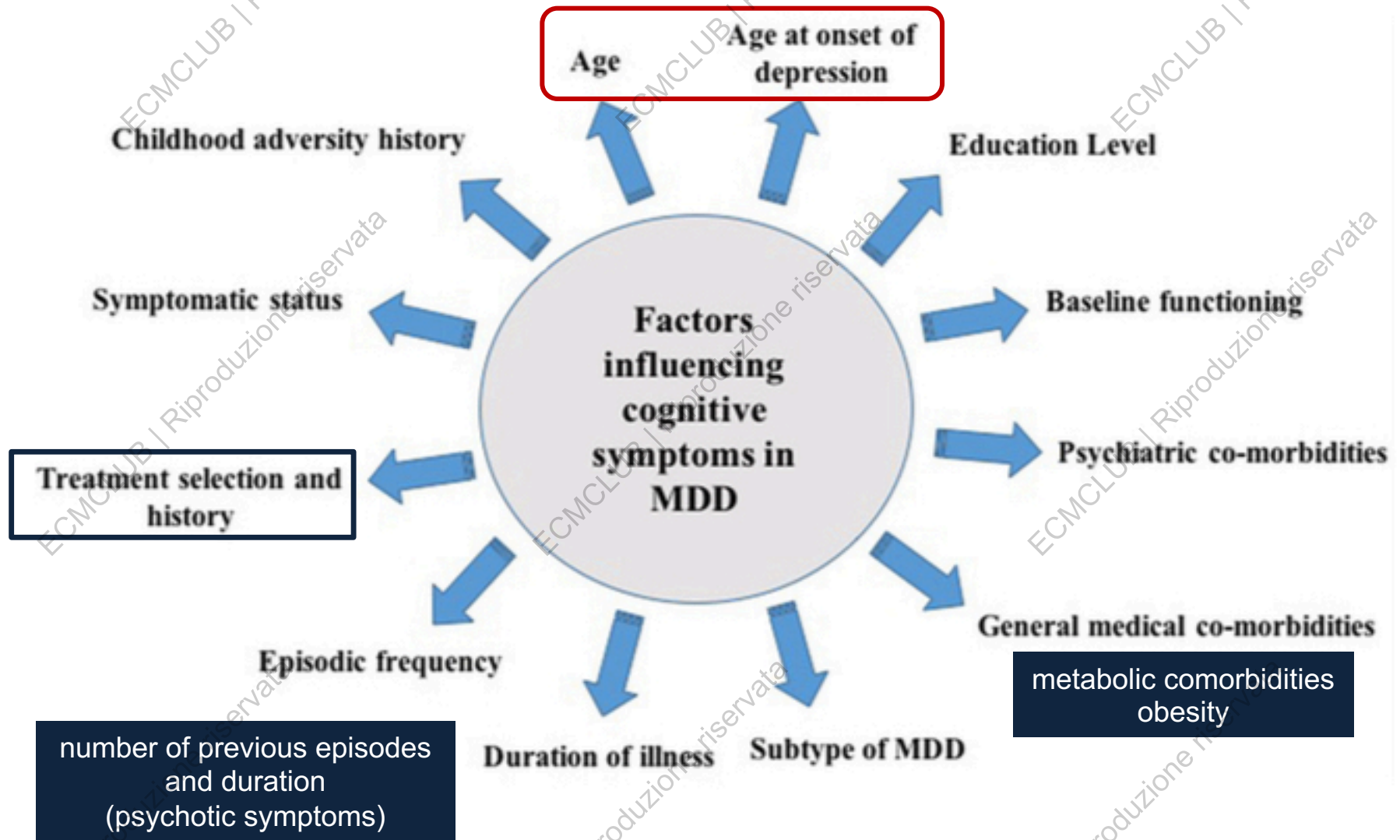
1. American Psychiatric Association. *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Health Disorders*. 5th ed. Washington, DC: American Psychiatric Association; 2013; 2. Marazziti D et al. *Eur J Pharmacol* 2010;626(1):83–86; 3. Hammar A, Ardal G. *Front Hum Neurosci* 2009;3:26. doi: 10.3389/neuro.09.026.2009; 4. Fehnel SE et al. *CNS Spectr* 2013;21:43–52.

what is cognition?

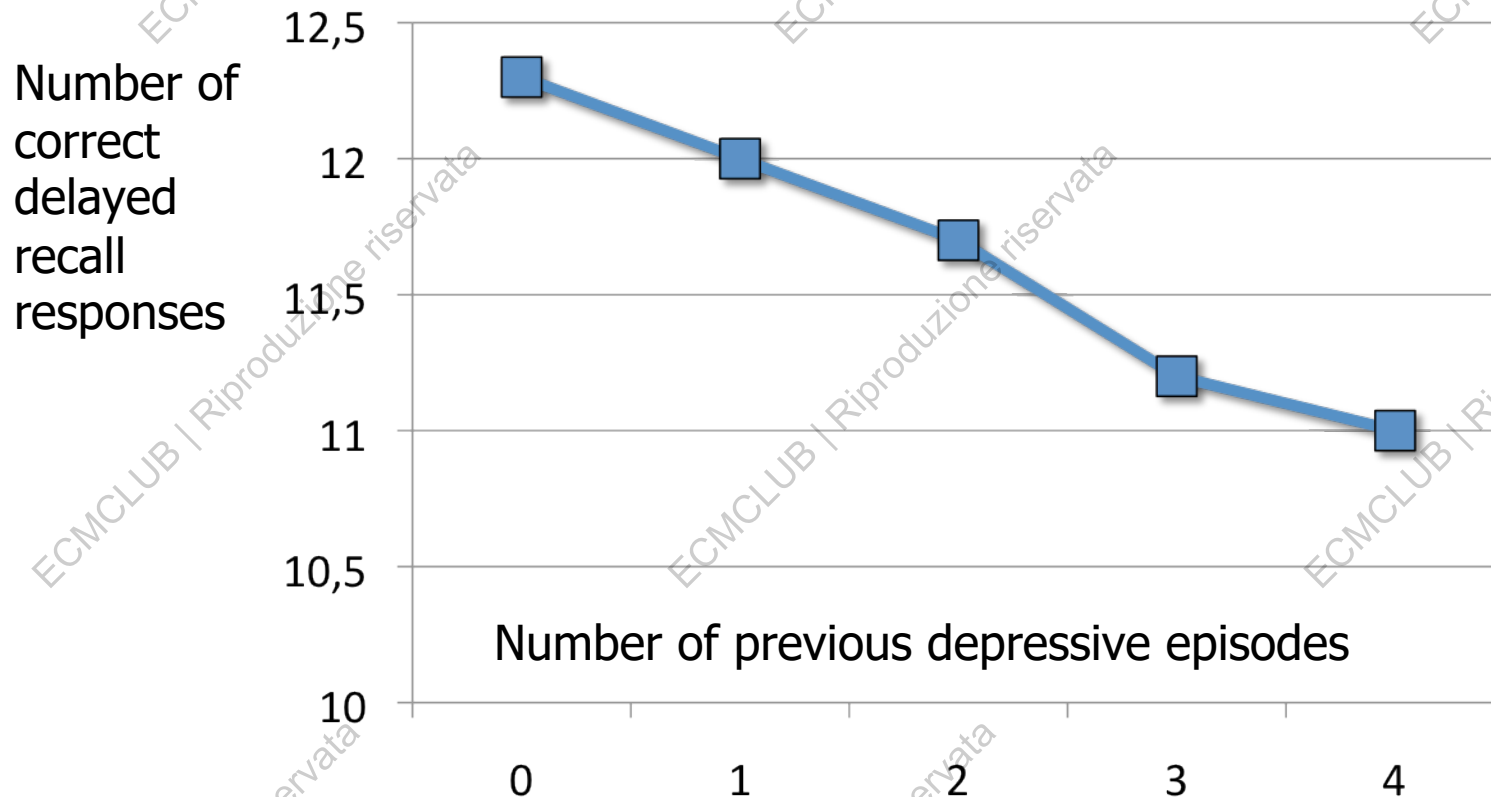
representative cognitive domains	what is it?	real-world example
attention/vigilance	responding correctly to targets while not responding to distractors during a series of rapidly presented stimuli	being able to read a book or pay attention to a movie
working memory	maintaining and manipulating information in mind for brief (approximately 5 to 20 seconds) periods of time	remembering a phone number just given to you
verbal learning and memory	remembering verbal information over longer periods of time (minutes to years)	remembering the items someone told you to purchase at the supermarket
visual learning and memory	remembering visual information over longer periods of time (minutes to years)	remembering where you put something in a closet
reasoning and problem solving	the ability to apply strategies effectively	arriving on time for work even though your bus schedule has changed
speed of processing	responding quickly and accurately when executing relatively simple tasks	using a touchscreen computer to serve customers at a fast food restaurant
social cognition	effectively processing social information, such as facial expressions and emotions and the meaning of social interactions	knowing by looking at someone whether they are angry at you or not; being able to take someone else's perspective in a conversation



Factors that influence cognitive symptoms in Major Depressive Disorder (MDD)



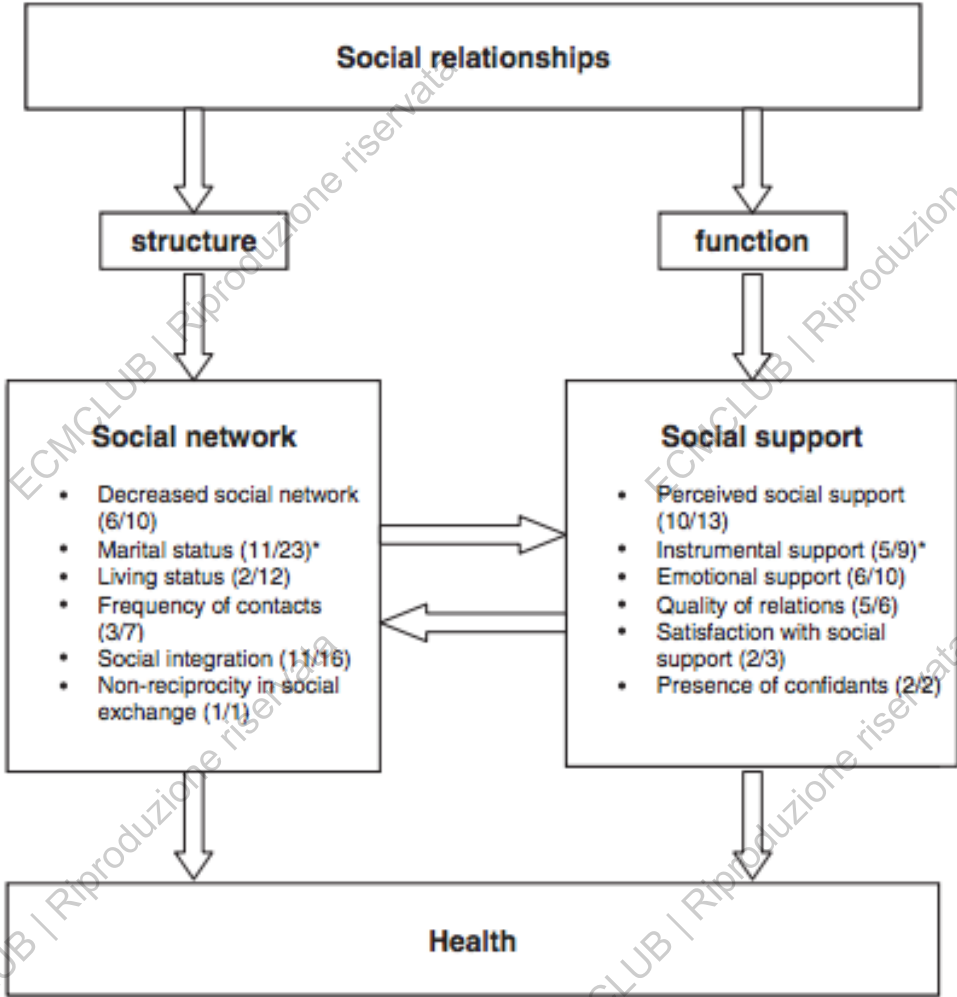
Verbal memory as a function of the number of depressive episodes



Gorwood et al. Toxic effects of depression on brain function: impairment of delayed recall and the cumulative length of depressive disorder in a large sample of depressed outpatients. Am J Psychiatry 2008; 165: 731-9

Social relations and depression in late life—A systematic review

Social relations and depression in late life



Signs and Symptoms of Late-Life Depression

Behavioral symptoms:

- Withdrawal from once-pleasurable activities
- Socially withdrawing from enjoyed gatherings and friendships
- Preferring to be left alone
- Pacing or fidgeting
- Extreme tearfulness
- Decreased ability to care for self

Psychosocial symptoms:

- Sadness
- Increased irritability
- Agitation
- Anxiety
- Anger
- Feeling hopeless
- Increased anxiety
- Inappropriate feelings of guilt

Physical symptoms:

- Significant change in appetite or weight
- Psychomotor retardation
- Physical pains without any discernable reason
- Gastrointestinal symptoms
- Headaches
- Multiple diffuse symptoms
- Insomnia or hypersomnia
- Fatigue or reduction in energy
- Changes in the structure and functioning of the brain

Cognitive symptoms:

- Thoughts of death or suicide
- Decreased ability to think clearly
- Indecisiveness
- Increased memory problems
- Memory loss



Assessment and treatment of major depression in older adults

CHARLES F. REYNOLDS III^{1*}, ERIC LENZE², AND BENOIT H. Mulsant³

Late-life depression	other conditions
loss of pleasure (anhedonia)	apathy of dementia or other neurologic conditions.
Loss of appetite or weight	concurrent physical illness or with dementia
Sleep disturbances, such as insomnia	chronic pain many other physical illnesses, including breathing-related sleep disorders such as obstructive sleep apnea
Psychomotor retardation	neurologic illnesses (Parkinson's disease, stroke, etc.)
inability to think, concentrate, or to make decisions	neurologic illnesses
Worthlessness and thoughts of death	terminal illnesses

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Geriatric Neurology

S.T. DeKosky and S. Asthana, Editors

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Table 3 Differential diagnosis: late-life depression versus dementia

	Late-life depression	Dementia
Onset	Slow or acute	Slow and progressive onset
Evolution	Chronological order of events can be recalled	History of the disease cannot be restored by the patient
Quality of life (as experienced by the patient)	Decreased	The patient does not experience his/her disease as a problem
Memory	Decreased ability to think or concentrate or being slowed down	Decreased Impaired ability to learn new information or to recall previously learned information Patient tries to hide cognitive problems
Language and praxis	Normal	Decreased
Affect	Apathetic, depressed mood, psychomotor retardation	Lability of affect
Somatic	Sleep disturbances Somatic problems (insomnia, dizziness, pain, etc.) Low energy Diurnal mood variation	Can be present, but will not be chief complaint
Prognosis	Treatable	Irreversible

Late-life depression and cognitive impairment: heterogeneous group of disorders

<i>birth</i>		<i>late-life</i> →	
early-onset depression	increasing <i>N</i> and length of episodes (psychotic)	MDE + cognitive impairment	Verbal learning & memory Cortisol toxicity Hippocampal shrinking
depression and ageing		MDE + cognitive impairment	visuospatial learning attention executive functions
		Late-onset depression (vascular depression?)	Verbal learning & memory Information processing speed Executive functions (some aspects) White matter hyperintensities Disruption of frontal-subcortical circuitry

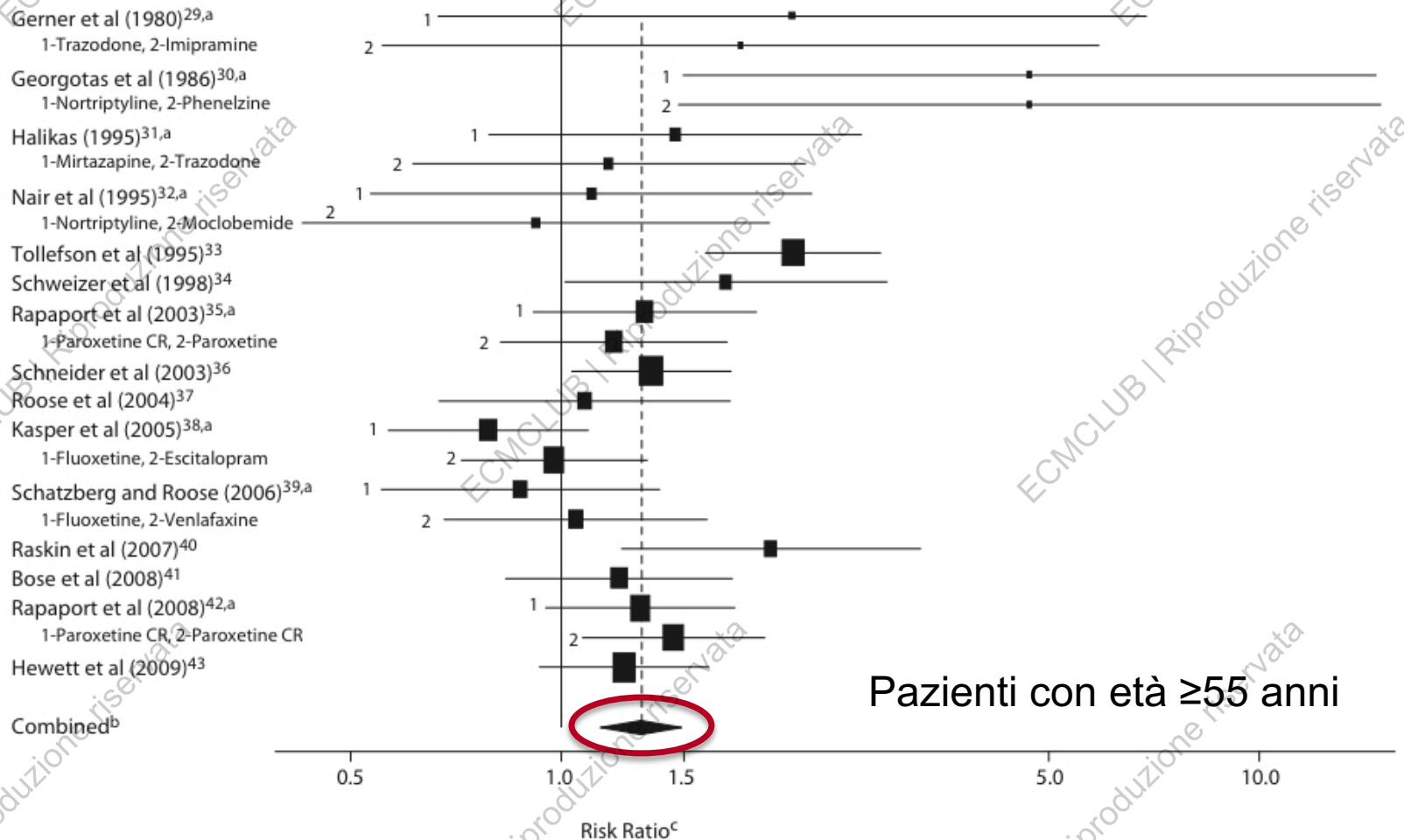
Trattamento della depressione nell'anziano

1. Come risponde la depressione dell'anziano agli antidepressivi?

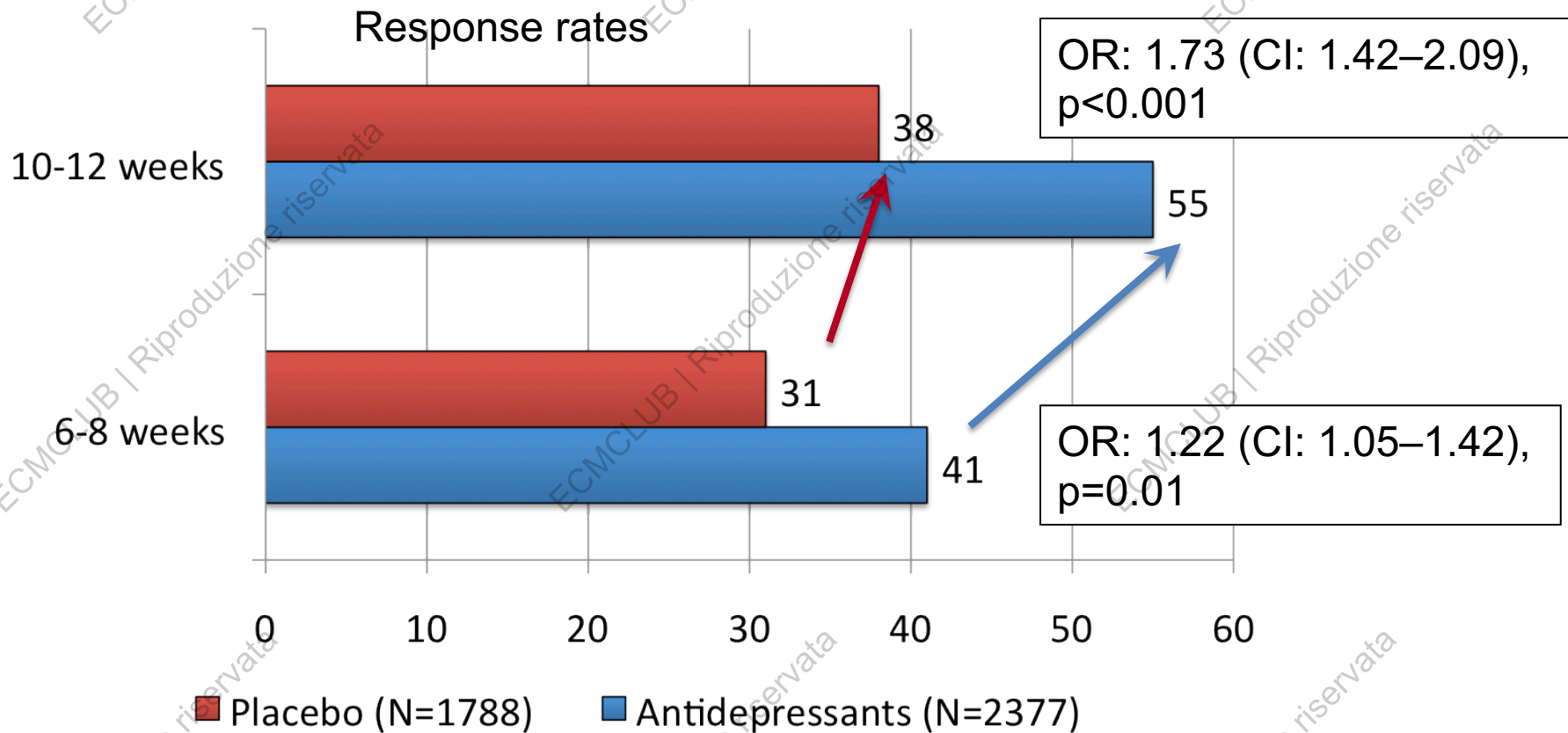


Efficacy of Antidepressants for Late-Life Depression: A Meta-Analysis and Meta-Regression of Placebo-Controlled Randomized Trials

Figure 2. Effects of Antidepressants in Trials in Late-Life Major Depressive Disorder



Efficacy of Second Generation Antidepressants in Late-Life Depression: A Meta-Analysis of the Evidence



Trattamento della depressione nell'anziano

1. Come risponde la depressione dell'anziano agli antidepressivi?
2. Trattamento farmacologico: quali antidepressivi?



Disfunzioni cognitive come evento avverso degli antidepressivi?

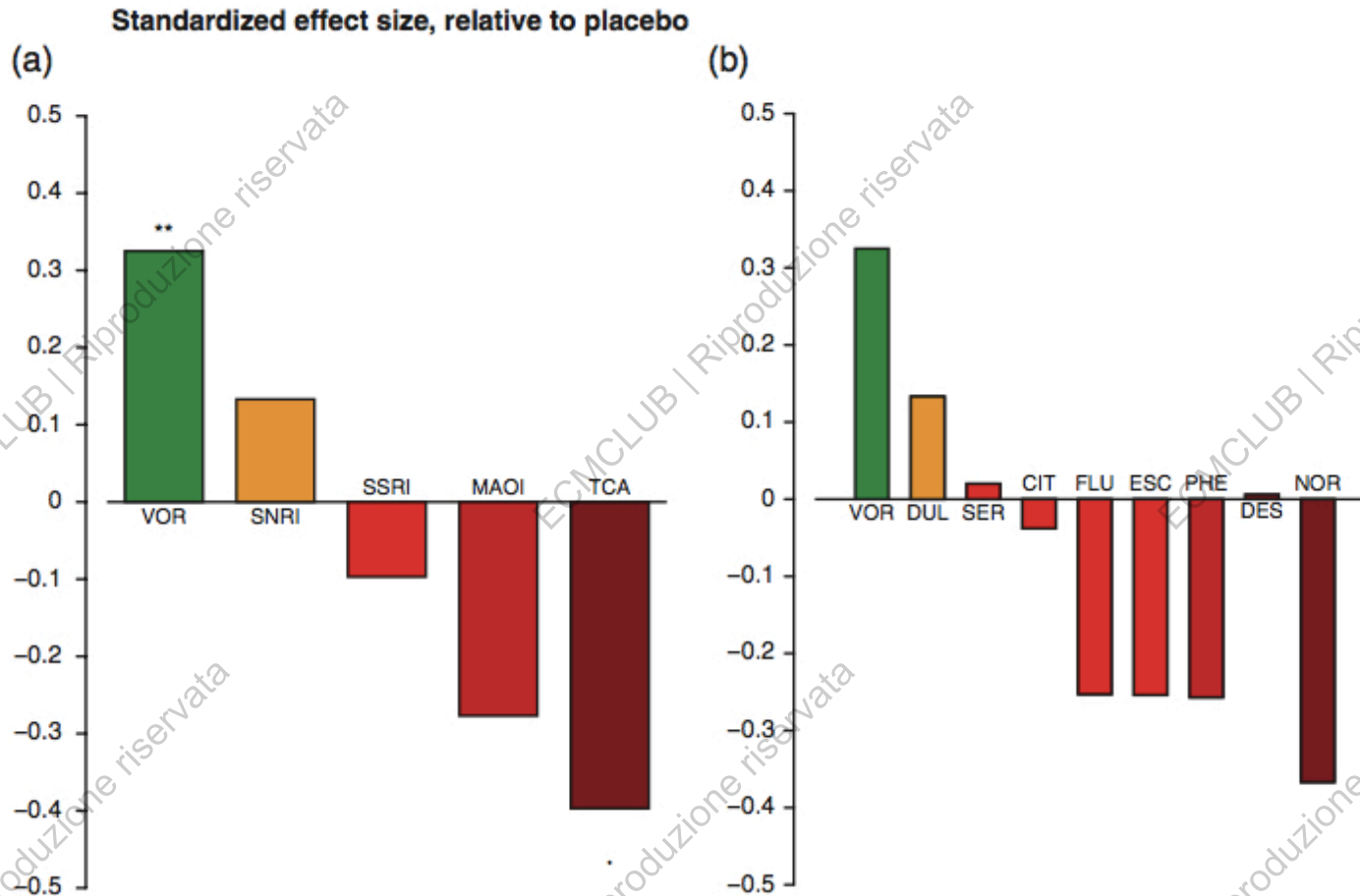


Cognition in Late Life Depression: Treatment Considerations

Aaron M. Koenig, MD¹ and Meryl A. Butters, PhD¹

- When selecting antidepressant medications, the clinician should be aware that certain agents have the potential to impair cognition (such as agents with anticholinergic or sedative properties).
- Tricyclic antidepressants (TCAs) have anticholinergic properties that impair cognition, and their use should be avoided in older adults, whenever possible [29] [Class IV]. Particularly challenging TCAs include amitriptyline, desipramine, imipramine, and nortriptyline.
- Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors (SSRIs) and Serotonin–Norepinephrine Reuptake Inhibitors (SNRIs) are generally better tolerated than TCAs [30] and are associated with fewer cognitive side effects.
- Whenever possible, psychotropic polypharmacy should be avoided in older adults, to minimize the potential for drug-drug interactions, compliance errors, and overall side effect burden [31].

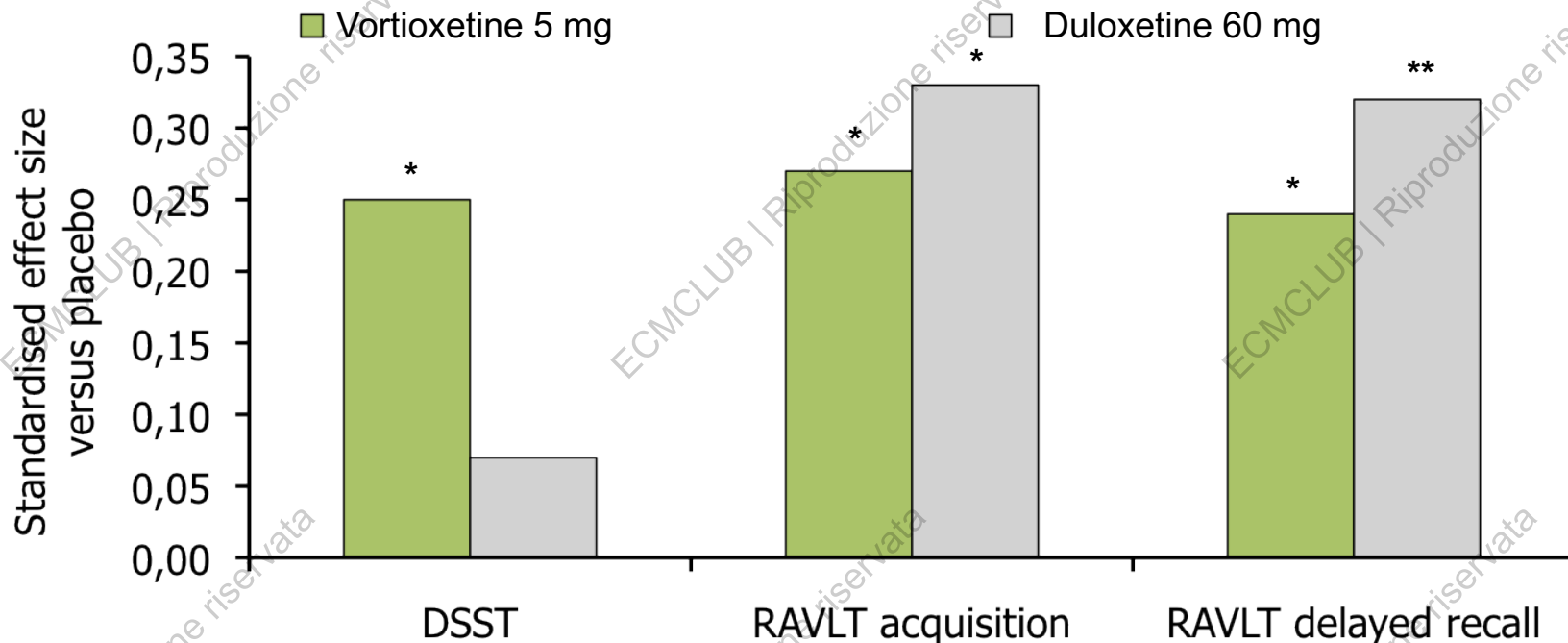
A Network Meta-Analysis Comparing Effects of Various Antidepressant Classes on the Digit Symbol Substitution Test (DSST) as a Measure of Cognitive Dysfunction in Patients with Major Depressive Disorder



Vortioxetine improved cognitive performance in elderly patients with depression

Improvement from baseline compared with placebo at Week 8 in patients ≥ 65 years

DSST and RAVLT exploratory endpoints FAS, ANCOVA, Cohen's d
* $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$ vs placebo; nominal p -values; n numbers are APTS



Duloxetine was included as active reference for study validation, not for comparison of effect sizes.

ANCOVA, analysis of covariance; APTS, all patients treated set;
DSST, Digit Symbol Substitution Test; FAS, full analysis set;
RAVLT, Rey Auditory Verbal Learning Test.

Behavioural activation for depression in older people: systematic review and meta-analysis

Vasiliki Orgeta, Janina Brede and Gill Livingston

The British Journal of Psychiatry (2017)
211, 274–279. doi: 10.1192/bjp.bp.117.205021

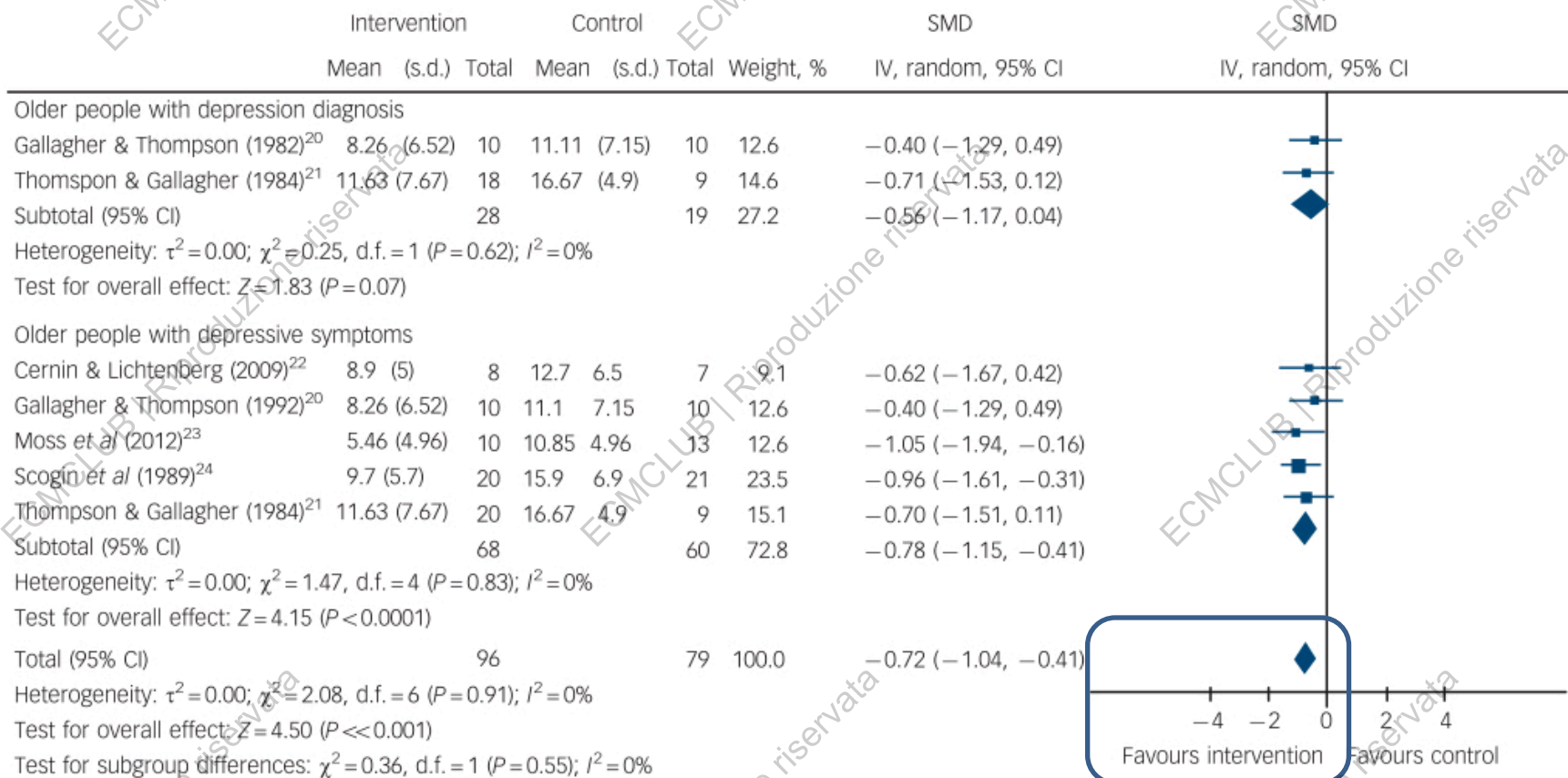


Fig. 2 Forest plot of behavioural activation (all forms) v. treatment as usual for older people living in the community with a diagnosis of depression or depressive symptoms. Outcome: depressive symptoms (4–12 weeks). SMD, standardised mean difference.