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**Number of illness episodes as predictor of residual symptoms in major
depressive disorder**

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Abstract

Notwithstanding major depressive disorder (MDD) is a recurring and chronic condition, relatively few variables have consistently been shown to predict its course. Residual depressive symptoms may be associated with disability and functional impairment but few studies evaluated clinical correlates associated with these symptoms and their impact on functioning after adjustment for potential confounders. Therefore, our study aimed to investigate factors associated with residual depressive symptoms and their impact on the course of MDD. The sample consisted of 210 consecutive MDD euthymic outpatients (67.6% females; mean age=52.1±15.5), admitted to the Section of Psychiatry, University of Genoa (Italy). Residual depressive symptoms were

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