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## Interactive Effect of Negative Affectivity and Anxiety Sensitivity in Terms of Mental Health Among Latinos in Primary Care

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### Abstract

From a public health perspective, primary care medical settings represent a strategic location to address mental health disparity among Latinos. Yet, there is little empirical work that addresses affective vulnerability processes for mental health problems in such settings. To help address this gap in knowledge, the present investigation examined an interactive model of negative affectivity (tendency to experience negative mood states) and anxiety sensitivity (fear of the negative consequences of aversive sensations) among a Latino sample in primary care in terms of a relatively wide range of anxiety/depression indices. Participants included 390 Latino adults ( $M_{age} = 38.7$ ,  $SD = 11.3$ ; 86.9% female; 95.6% reported Spanish as first language) from a primary care health clinic. Primary dependent measures included depressive, suicidal, social anxiety, and anxious arousal symptoms, number of mood and anxiety disorders, and disability. Consistent with prediction, the interaction between negative affectivity and anxiety sensitivity

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