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Development and external validation of a prediction rule for an unfavourable course of late-life depression: a multicenter cohort study

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HIGHLIGHTS

- Compared to younger age groups, the prognosis of late-life depression is poor.
- Predicting late-life depression may improve the care of depressed elderly.
- Predictors of late-life depression are age, onset and severity of depression, anxiety, fatigue, and loneliness.
- Severity of depression is the strongest individual predictor of late-life depression.
- Our prediction rule can be used for monitoring depressed elderly and identifying those at risk.

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