

W. WALCHER'S CRITERIA OF MASKED DEPRESSION

1. HYPOCHONDRIASIS/ SOMATIC SYMPTOMS/ VEGETATIVE MANIFESTATIONS

Present, proceed to 2
Absent, stop

Possible Masked Depression
PSYCHIATRIC DISORDER

2. INSOMNIA
3. DECREASED APPETITE/
WEIGHT LOSS
4. ANXIETY
5. BODILY MISPERCEPTIONS
6. ACHES AND PAINS
7. LACK OF DRIVE
8. WORSE IN THE MORNING

At least 2 of 7 present, proceed to 9
Less than 2 of 7 present, stop

Probable Masked Depression
PSYCHIATRIC DISORDER

9. MANIA/ HYPOMANIA

Present, stop
Absent, stop

PSYCHIATRIC DISORDER
MASKED DEPRESSION

It consists of a total number of 12 digits, based on 12 codes included in 9 variables organized into 3 decision clusters, yielding 1 diagnosis.

It is based on W. Walcher's monograph *Die larvierten Depression*, published in 1969, in which masked depression is defined. In revised CODE-DD it is characterized by hypochondriasis (somatic symptoms, or vegetative manifestations) with insomnia, decreased appetite (weight loss), anxiety, bodily misperceptions, aches and pains, lack of drive and worse in the morning.

GEISLER LS (1973) MASKED DEPRESSION IN PATIENTS SUSPECTED OF SUFFERING FROM INTERNAL DISEASES. IN P KIELHOLZ (ED) MASKED DEPRESSION. HANS HUBER, VIENNA pp. 218-228

Walcher W (1969) *Die larvierte Depression*. Hollinek, Vienna

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MASKED DEPRESSION