

FOULDS AND BEDFORD'S CLASSIFICATION OF DEPRESSIVE ILLNESS

1. ANXIOUS MOOD/
DEPRESSED MOOD/
DYSPHORIA

Present, proceed to 2
Absent, stop

Possible Psychotic Depression
PSYCHIATRIC DISORDER

2. DISTURBANCE OF CONCENTRATION/
RETARDED THINKING
3. FEELING OF HELPLESSNESS/
FEELING OF INADEQUACY/
FEELING OF WORTHLESSNESS
4. ASTHENIA/
FEELING OF LOSS OF VITALITY
5. CORPORISATION
6. MOTOR RETARDATION/
STUPOR

At least 2 of 5 present, proceed to 7
Less than 2 of 5 present, proceed to 10

Possible Psychotic Depression
Possible Neurotic Depression

7. DELUSIONS/
HALLUCINATIONS

Present, proceed to 8
Absent, proceed to 11

Possible Psychotic Depression
Possible Neurotic Depression

8. MOOD-CONGRUENT PSYCHOTIC SYMPTOMS

Present, proceed to 9
Absent, stop

Probable Psychotic Depression
PSYCHIATRIC DISORDER

9. MANIA/
HYPOMANIA

Present, stop
Absent, stop

PSYCHIATRIC DISORDER
PSYCHOTIC DEPRESSION

10. DELUSIONS/
HALLUCINATIONS

Absent, proceed to 11
Present, stop

Probable Neurotic Depression
PSYCHIATRIC DISORDER

11. HYPOCHONDRIASIS/
 OBSESSIVE THOUGHTS/
 COMPULSIVE ACTIONS/
 PHOBIAS/
 RUMINATION

Present, proceed to 12
 Absent, proceed to 13

Probable Neurotic Depression
 Probable Dysthymic Depression

12. MANIA/
 HYPOMANIA

Present, stop
 Absent, stop

PSYCHIATRIC DISORDER
 NEUROTIC DEPRESSION

13. MANIA/
 HYPOMANIA

Present, stop
 Absent, stop

PSYCHIATRIC DISORDER
 DYSTHYMIC DEPRESSION

It consists of a total number of 29 digits, based on 23 codes included in 13 variables organised into 9 decision clusters, yielding 3 diagnoses.

It is based on the application of Foulds' concepts on the "hierarchical nature of personal illness," presented in 1973 and 1976, to the classification of depression by Foulds and Bedford in their papers on "The hierarchy of classes of personal illness," and on "The classification of depressive illness: a re-evaluation," published in *Psychological Medicine* in 1975 and 1976 respectively, in which depressive illness is divided into psychotic depression, neurotic depression and dysthymic depression. In revised CODE-DD psychotic depression is characterised by anxious mood (depressed mood or dysphoria) with disturbance of concentration (retarded thinking), feeling of helplessness (feeling of inadequacy, or feeling of worthlessness), asthenia (feeling of loss of vitality), corporization, motor retardation (stupor), delusions (hallucinations) and mood congruent psychotic symptoms; neurotic depression by anxious mood (depressed mood, or dysphoria) with hypochondriasis (obsessive thoughts, phobias or rumination) and dysthymic depression by anxious mood (depressed mood or dysphoria).

FOULDS GA, BEDFORD A, (1975) HIERARCHY OF CLASSES OF PERSONAL ILLNESS. *PSYCHOL MED* 5: 181-192

Foulds GA, Bedford A, (1976) The classification of depressive illness: a re-evaluation. *Psychol Med* 6: 15-19

Foulds GA (1976) *The Hierarchical Nature of Personal Illness*
 Academic, Orlando

Foulds GA, (1973) The Relationship Between Depressive Illness. Brit J Psychiatry 122: 531-533

FOULDS AND BEDFORD'S CLASSIFICATION OF DEPRESSIVE ILLNESS

PSYCHOTIC DEPRESSION

NEUROTIC DEPRESSION

DYSTHYMIC DEPRESSION