

## ARETAEUS' CLASSIFICATION OF MELANCHOLIA

1. ANGER/  
DYSPHORIA
2. DEPRESSED MOOD
3. APATHETIC INDIFFERENCE/  
ASTHENIA/  
FEELING OF LOSS OF VITALITY
4. UNMOTIVATED DEPRESSED MOOD/  
UNMOTIVATED DYSPHORIA
5. IRRITABILITY
6. INSOMNIA
7. ANXIETY
8. COMPLAINTIVENESS
9. HOSTILITY
10. LOSS OF DESIRE TO LIVE/  
SUICIDAL TENDENCIES
11. SUSPICIOUSNESS
12. MISANTHROPY/  
WITHDRAWAL
13. SUPERSTITIOUSNESS

At least 3 of 13 present,  
proceed to 14  
Less than 3 of 13 present, stop

Possible Melancholia with  
Hatred of life  
PSYCHIATRIC DISORDER

14. LOSS OF DESIRE TO LIVE/  
SUICIDAL TENDENCIES

Absent, proceed to 15  
Present, proceed to 19

Possible Suspicious Melancholia  
Possible Melancholia with  
Hatred of Life

15. SUSPICIOUSNESS

Absent, proceed to 16  
Present, proceed to 22

Possible Melancholia with  
Misanthropy  
Possible Suspicious  
Melancholia

16. MISANTHROPY/  
WITHDRAWAL

Absent, proceed to 17

Possible Superstitious  
Melancholia

Present, proceed to 25

Possible Melancholia with  
Misanthropy

### 17. SUPERSTITIOUSNESS

Absent, proceed to 18  
Present, proceed to 28

Probable Pure Melancholia  
Possible Superstitious  
Melancholia

### 18. MANIA/ HYPOMANIA

Present, stop  
Absent, stop

PSYCHIATRIC DISORDER  
PURE MELANCHOLIA

### 19. MISANTHROPIC MELANCHOLIC SYNDROME/ SUPERSTITIOUS MELANCHOLIC SYNDROME/ SUSPICIOUS MELANCHOLIC SYNDROME

Present, proceed to 20  
Absent, proceed to 21

Probable Mixed Melancholia  
Probable Melancholia with  
Hatred of life

### 20. MANIA/ HYPOMANIA

Present, stop  
Absent, stop

PSYCHIATRIC DISORDER  
MIXED MELANCHOLIA

### 21. MANIA/ HYPOMANIA

Present, stop  
Absent, stop

PSYCHIATRIC DISORDER  
MELANCHOLIA WITH HATRED  
OF LIFE

### 22. HATRED OF LIFE MELANCHOLIC SYNDROME/ MISANTHROPIC MELANCHOLIC SYNDROME/ SUPERSTITIOUS MELANCHOLIC SYNDROME

Present, proceed to 23  
Absent, proceed to 24

Probable Mixed Melancholia  
Probable Suspicious  
Melancholia

### 23. MANIA/ HYPOMANIA

Present, stop  
Absent, stop

PSYCHIATRIC DISORDER  
MIXED MELANCHOLIA

24. MANIA/  
HYPOMANIA

Present, stop  
Absent, stop

PSYCHIATRIC DISORDER  
SUSPICIOUS MELANCHOLIA

25. HATRED OF LIFE MELANCHOLIC SYNDROME/  
SUPERSTITIOUS MELANCHOLIC SYNDROME/  
SUSPICIOUS MELANCHOLIC SYNDROME

Present, proceed to 26  
Absent, proceed to 27

Probable Mixed Melancholia  
Probable Melancholia with  
Misanthropy

26. MANIA/  
HYPOMANIA

Present, stop  
Absent, stop

PSYCHIATRIC DISORDER  
MIXED MELANCHOLIA

27. MANIA/  
HYPOMANIA

Present, stop  
Absent, stop

PSYCHIATRIC DISORDER  
MELANCHOLIA WITH  
MISANTHROPY

28. HATRED OF LIFE MELANCHOLIC SYNDROME/  
MISANTHROPIC MELANCHOLIC SYNDROME/  
SUSPICIOUS MELANCHOLIC SYNDROME

Present, proceed to 29  
Absent, proceed to 30

Probable Mixed Melancholia  
Probable Superstitious  
Melancholia

29. MANIA/  
HYPOMANIA

Present, stop  
Absent, stop

PSYCHIATRIC DISORDER  
MIXED MELANCHOLIA

30. MANIA/

## HYPOMANIA

Present, stop

Absent, stop

PSYCHIATRIC DISORDER

SUPERSTITIOUS MELANCHOLIA

It consists of a total number of 55 digits based on 25 codes included in 30 variables organized into 18 decision clusters, yielding to 6 diagnoses.

It is based on chapter 5 of book I in Aretaeus' treatise on the *Causes and Symptoms of Chronic Diseases*, written toward the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> century, in which melancholia is divided into four forms: melancholia with hatred of life, melancholia with misanthropy, superstitious melancholia, and suspicious melancholia. In revised CODE-DD there are two additional forms of melancholia added, i.e., pure melancholia (for patients who qualify for melancholia, but do not fit any of the four forms), and mixed melancholia (for patients who fit more than one the four forms), and melancholia characterized by anger (dysphoria), depressed mood, apathetic indifference (asthenia, or feeling of loss of vitality), unmotivated depressed mood (unmotivated dysphoria), irritability, insomnia, anxiety, complaintiveness, hostility, loss of desire to live (suicidal tendencies), suspiciousness, misanthropy (withdrawal) and superstitiousness.

ARETAEUS THE CAPADOCIAN. OF THE CAUSES AND SIGNS OF ACUTE AND CHRONIC DISEASE. LONDON, PICKERING (1837) pp. 298-300

### ARETAEUS' CLASSIFICATION OF MELANCHOLIA

PURE MELANCHOLIA

MIXED MELANCHOLIA

MELANCHOLIA WITH HATRED OF LIFE

SUSPICIOUS MELANCHOLIA

MELANCHOLIA WITH MISANTHROPY

SUPERSTITIOUS MELANCHOLIA