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Introduction & Purpose *

Background: The relationship between late-life depression and pain is an important focus in clinical care and research. For an estimated 42% of elders with depression pain is comorbid, leading to increased disability and further reducing quality of life. Furthermore, depression severity increases with pain severity, making recognition and concurrent treatment essential.
Purpose: This poster describes: 1) the relationship between pain and depression levels pre-and post-training and 2) perceptions of the impact of pain on daily life among older adults living in nursing homes (NHs).

Experimental Design *

Methodology: Data were collected as part of a pilot project examining the effect of nurse-oriented depression training, conceptually based on the Unutzer's IMPACT model of depression, on residents' level of depression and depression-related factors. Data included resident depression and pain assessments at baseline and 12 week post training. A total of 46 older adults residing in 10 Iowa NHs was included. The Patient Health Questionnaire measured depression levels, the Iowa Pain Thermometer evaluated pain levels, and pain perceptions were assessed using standardized open-ended questions related to the impact of pain on daily function.

Results *	Analysis: Descriptive statistics characterized the sample and levels of pain and depression. Spearman's correlation determined the association between pain and depression levels pre-and post-training. A significant association ($p=.0072$) existed between pain and depression levels only at 12 week follow-up. Content analysis was used to analyze resident narrative responses related to pain and function. Perceptions among those with higher and lower levels of pain and depression were examined.
Conclusions *	Implications: Research findings provide an understanding of the relationship between depression and pain in older NH residents, and the potential impact of depression training on identification and report of the important relationship between these variables. Narrative responses will further explore this relationship and its impact on older adults' daily life.

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