

The Web-based Screening Questionnaire for Common mental disorders (WSC)

An ongoing study of its feasibility and psychometric properties

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Background (1)

A comprehensive Internet-based self help
System

- Depression
- Anxiety disorders
- Burnout
- Alcohol abuse/dependence
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Background (2)



Background (3)

Web-based Screener for Common mental disorders (WSC)

- 22 items
- Depression, anxiety, burnout, alcohol abuse/dependence, etc)
- Screening questionnaire (SQ; Marks et al., 2005)
- E.g. “Have you avoided social situations for fear of being the focus of attention?”

Background (4)

Is screening through the Internet possible?



Aim

This study:

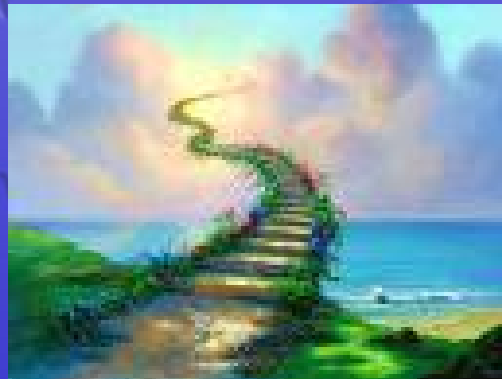
For different disorders:

- Feasibility and psychometric properties of the WSC
- Comparison to accepted and validated (long) screening questionnaires
- Comparison to diagnoses

Aim

Ultimately:

- Leading people correctly to specific self-help interventions on the Internet



Design: participants

- Recruitment through banners via the Internet

Inclusion:

- Participants (18 year and older) in the general population
- Written informed consent

Exclusion:

- Suicidal participants

Design: procedure

Web based Screener for Common mental disorders (N=215)

Screening questionnaires (e.g. CES-D, HADS, PDSS-SR, Fear Questionnaire (N=215))

Diagnostic telephonic interview (CIDI 2.1) (N=46)

Currently

- Oct, 1 2007:
- 475 Participants (target: 740)
- 88 Diagnostic interviews (target: 250)
- 25% Dropout
- Inclusion period: may-dec 2007

Preliminary results (1)

Demographic characteristics (N=215)

- 102 Males (47.4%) 113 females (52.6%)
- Higher education n=95 (44.2%)
- Age, M (SD)= 46 (11.07) range: 22-80

Preliminary results (2)

- WSC Depression:
- Q1) How much are you troubled by feeling miserable or depressed?

Not troubled (0)-quite troubled (4)– quite/seriously troubled (5)- very seriously troubled (7)

- Q2) Do you experience a loss of interest and/or pleasure in things you normally do enjoy?

Yes/No

WSC positive: $Q1 \geq 4$ or $Q2 = \text{yes}$

Preliminary results (3)

Depression (*N*=215, CIDI diagnoses *n*= 46)

	POSITIVE, N (%)	NEGATIVE, N (%)
WSC	195 (90.7)	20 (9.3)
CES-D	180 (83.7)	35 (16.3)
DEPRESSION	17 (37.0)	27 (63.0)

Web based screener for common mental disorders (WSC)

Preliminary results (4)

Depression (*CIDI* diagnoses $n= 46$)

	Depression positive	Depression negative
CES-D, M (SD)	33 (9.3)	21 (9.2)

Preliminary results (5)

Depression ($N=215$, *CIDI diagnoses* $n= 46$)

Screenener	Gold standard	Sensitivity	Specificity	AUC
WSC	CES-D	.98	.49	.735
WSC	MDD	1.00	.17	.586
CES-D	MDD	1.00	.28	.638

WSC: $Q1 \geq 4$ or $Q2 = \text{yes}$

CES-D ≥ 16

Preliminary results (6)

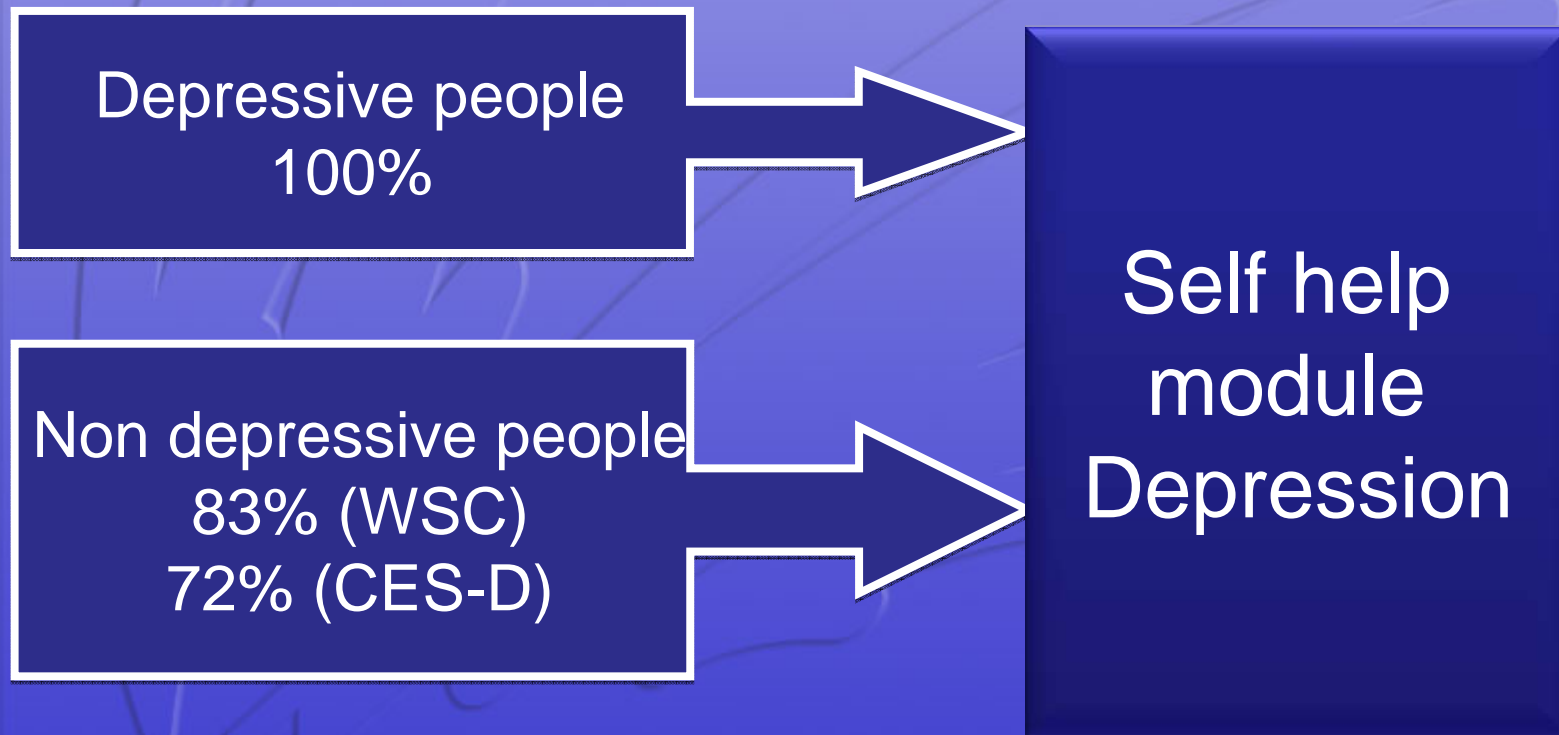
Depression ($N=215$, *CIDI diagnoses* $n= 46$)

Screenener	Gold standard	Sensitivity	Specificity	AUC
WSC*	MDD	.94	.59	.764
CES-D (22)	MDD	.94	.55	.746

WSC*: $Q1 \geq 5$ & $Q2 = \text{yes}$

CES-D $\Rightarrow 22$

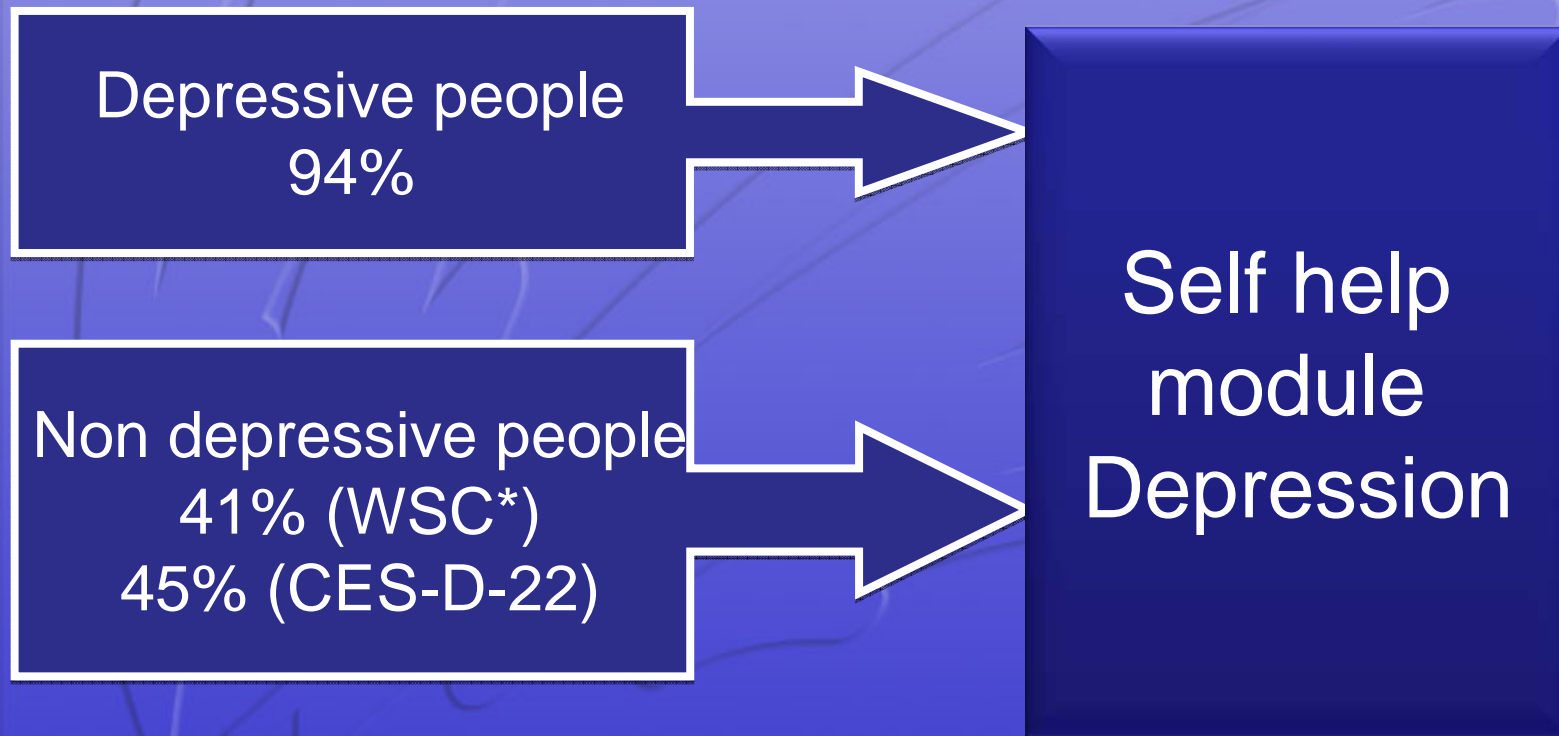
Conclusion (1)



WSC: Q1 \geq 4 or Q2 = yes

CES-D \geq 16

Conclusion (2)



WSC: Q1 ≥ 5 & Q2=yes

CES-D: $\Rightarrow 22$

Conclusion (3)

- 2 questions of the WSC are similar to the 20 questions of the CES-D
- Almost all of the depressive people are correctly assigned to the self help module for depression
- Over treatment of non depressive people

Discussion

- N (46) is small
- People report more symptoms online than with paper-pencil version
- Time gap between screening questionnaire and diagnostic interview
- No knowledge of other diagnoses
- Over treatment: acceptable?

Future analyses

Psychometric properties of:

- Web-based Screener for Common mental disorders (WSC)
- Screening Questionnaires (CES-D, HADS, PDSS-SR etc)
- Different cut off points

Compared to:

Diagnosis of depression, anxiety disorders, burnout alcohol abuse/dependence,



Any questions?

Is over treatment acceptable?



THANK YOU

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