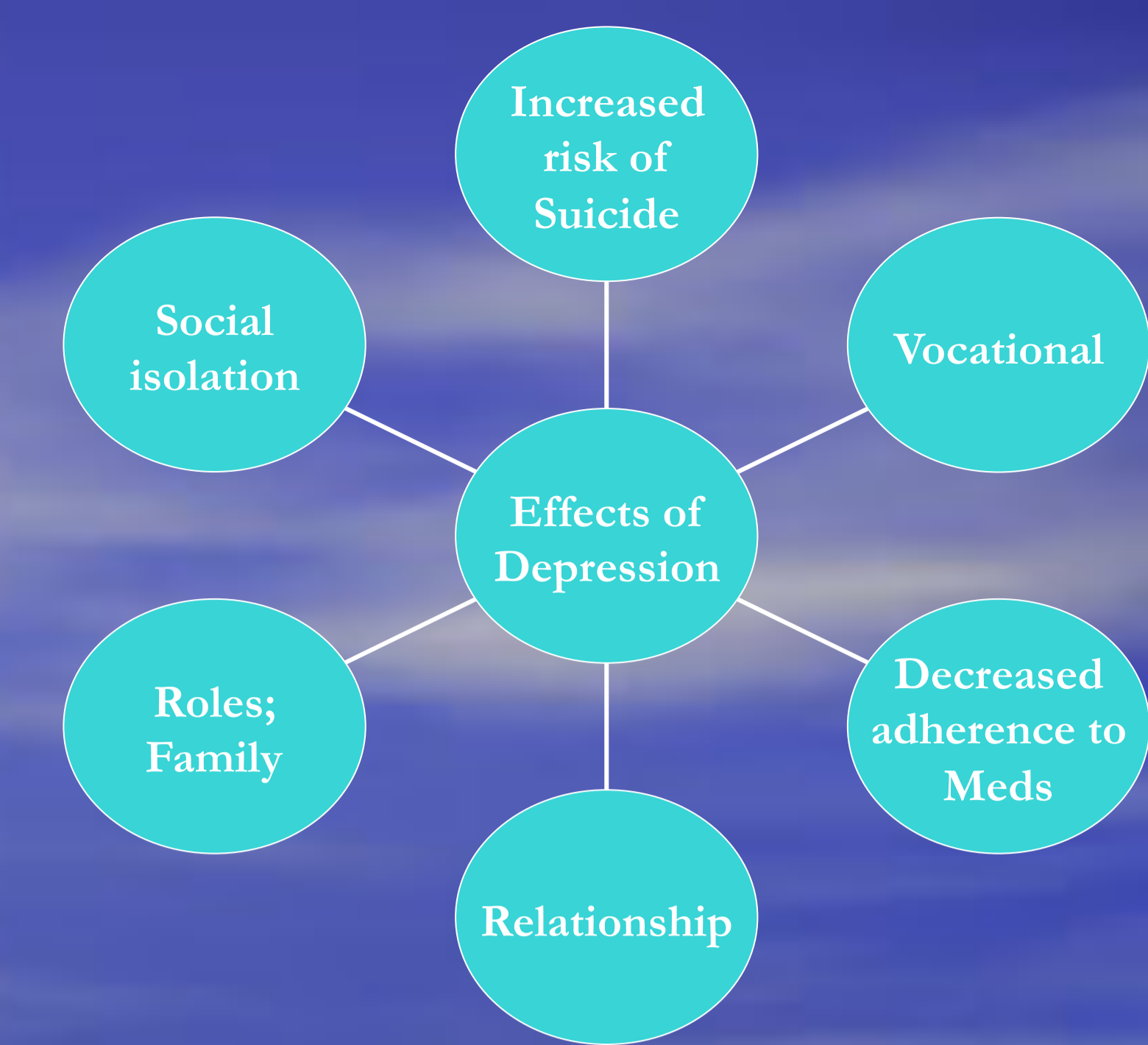


Screening for Depression in adult patients with Multiple Sclerosis (MS)

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Purposes of Study

Compare the number of agreements between the Beck Depression inventory-II (BDI-II) and the Beck Depression Inventory Fast Screen (BDI-FS) in screening for depression in adult patients with multiple sclerosis in an urban outpatient setting

Describe the prevalence of depression in adult patients with multiple sclerosis as measured by the Beck Depression Inventory-II (BDI-II), and the Beck Depression Inventory Fast Screen (BDI-FS)

Determine if the number of relapses in adult patients with MS in the past year as recorded in the medical chart is correlated with severity of depression as measured by the Beck Depression Inventory-II (BDI-II), and the Beck Depression Inventory Fast Screen (BDI-FS)

Determine if the degree of disability in adult patients with multiple sclerosis as measured by the Extended Disability Status Scale (EDSS) is correlated with severity of depression as measured by the Beck Depression Inventory-II (BDI-II), and the Beck Depression Inventory Fast Screen (BDI-FS)

Conceptual Framework: Cognitive-Behavioral

- The cognitive-behavioral theory represents the combined approach to depression drawing both from behavioral and cognitive theories of depression
- (Lovejoy & Matteis, 1997)

Design: Correlational

One group tested once with 2 tools (prospective)
 Correlations between:
 Depression as measured by the BDI-II, and by the BDI-FS in adult patients with MS
 Degree of disability as measured by the EDSS and depression as measured by the BDI-II, and BDI-FS
 Number of relapses/yr & depression as measured by BDI-II & BDI-FS

Results: There was a significant positive Correlation between the BDI-II and the BDI-FS ($r = .816, p = .01$). Chi-Square analysis of the BDI-II and BDI-FS was performed to determine whether there was a difference in depressive symptoms between the two tools. There was a significant statistical difference in the scores at or above the cutoff score between the two instrument ability to identify depressive symptoms ($X^2 = 22.61, df = 1, p < .001$). The BDI-FS identified a significantly higher number of individuals who were depressed.

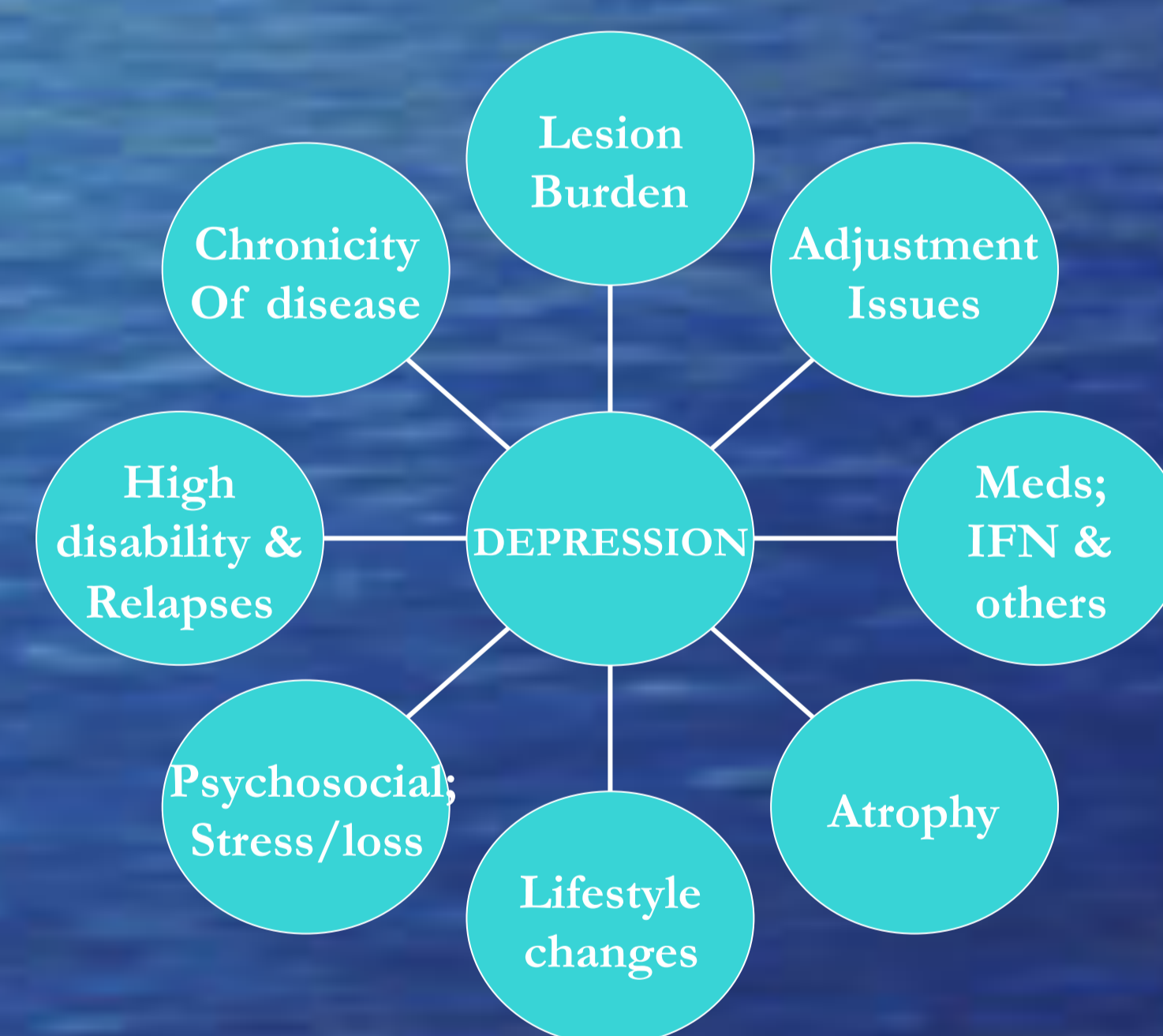
There was no correlation between depression & relapse rate or disability.

Additional Analyses: There was also a significant difference in the scores for depression as measured by the BDI-II and living with family ($t = -4.77, p < .001$) but there was no significant difference between scores for depression and living alone ($t = 1.88, p = .07$).

Suicide: Whites reported significantly lower scores than other ethnic groups ($t = -3.19, df = 32, p < .05$). Married subjects also reported significantly lower suicidal ideation scores compared to all other marital status categories ($t = -2.55, p < .05$). In addition, subjects who lived alone reported significantly higher scores on the item assessing suicidal ideation than those who lived with other family members ($t = 2.48, p < .05$).

Inclusion Criteria

- A diagnosis of multiple sclerosis
- Any type of MS (RR, SP, PR, PP)
- Any duration of disease
- May be on any of the DMAs for MS
- Older \geq 18 years of age
- Without other chronic diseases
- Can read, write, and speak English



Sample: 35 subjects diagnosed with MS
A power level of .80,
Alpha level of a .05 one-tailed test

Setting

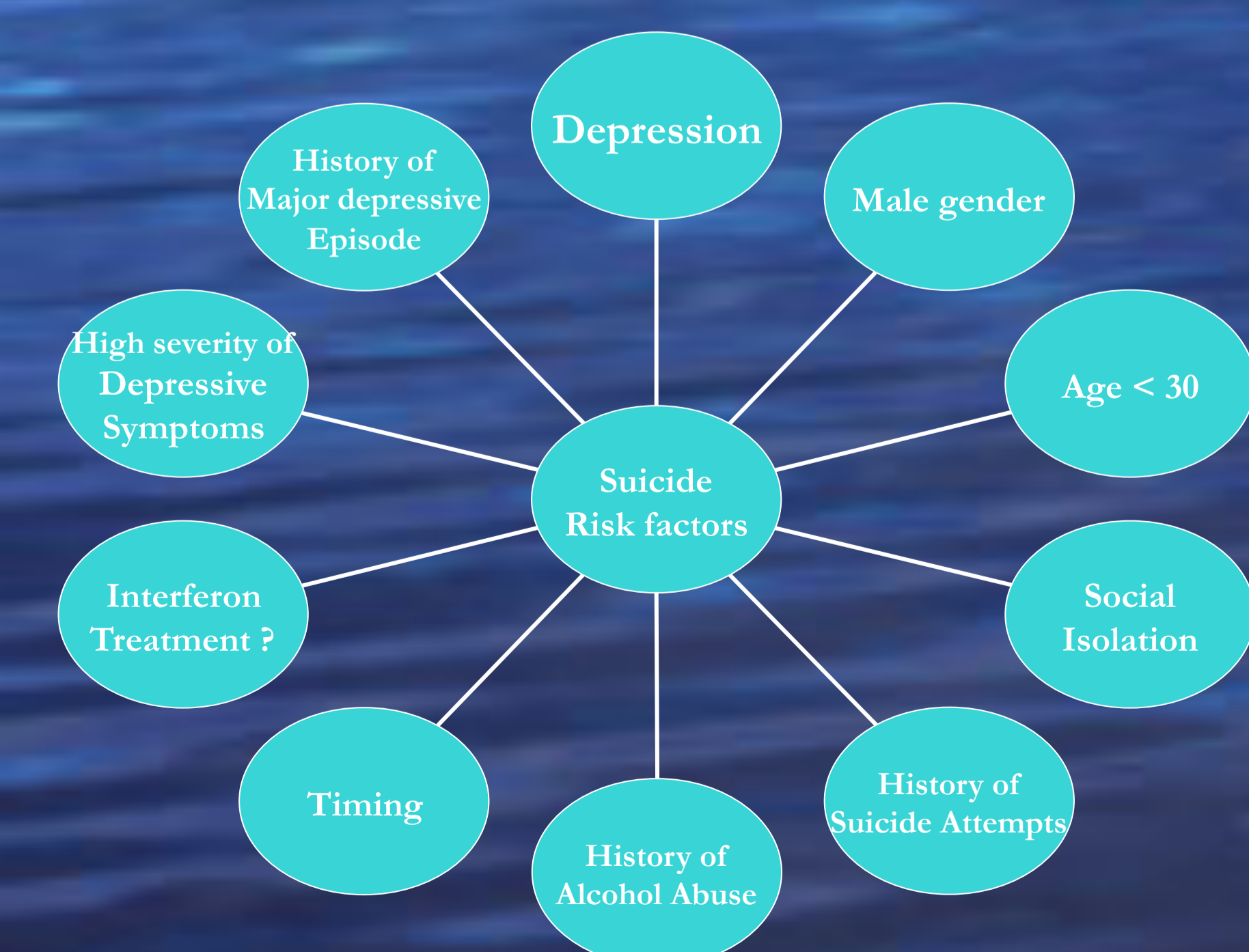
An urban neurology academic outpatient clinic located in a large metropolitan hospital in the Northeastern region of United States

Statistical Analysis

Pearson's correlation
 Correlation between the scores on the BDI-II & BDI-FS
 Correlation between the degree of disability in patients with MS & severity of depression
 Correlation between the number of relapses in patients with MS & severity of depression

Exclusion Criteria

- probable or possible diagnosis of MS
- diagnosed with variant forms of MS
- Currently having a relapse
- Treated with steroids
- Taking antidepressants
- Diagnosed with any psychiatric illness
- Have other chronic illness



Variables	Instruments used to measure variables
The score for depressive symptoms on the Beck Depression Inventory-II (BDI-II) (dependent variable)	The Beck Depression Inventory-II (BDI-II)
The score of depressive symptoms on the Beck Depression Inventory Fast-Screen (BDI-FS) (dependent variable)	The Beck Depression Inventory Fast-Screen (BDI-FS)
Patients with a diagnosis of multiple sclerosis (a diagnosis of MS is based on the McDonald criteria) (independent variable)	The diagnostic McDonald criteria based on time of neurological attacks and space in the brain and spinal cord
The score of the degree of disability on the Expanded Disability Status Scale (independent variable)	The Expanded Disability Status Scale (EDSS)
The number of relapses as recorded in the medical chart (independent variable)	The medical chart's record of the number of relapses