The Utility of Slums as a Screening Tool Among Nursing Home Residents in Poland: First Results.

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Introduction: The aging of the world population implies challenges in the area of early diagnosis in geriatric psychiatry as well as in general
medical practice. Researchers found that the screening tool developed by Saint Louis University detects early cognitive problems,
specifically mild cognitive impairments (MCI), missed by other screening tools.
Aims: To compare the Polish version of SLUMS as a screening instrument with other screening tests mostly used in Poland such as: MMSE or STMS.
Methods: The cross-sectional descriptive study was conducted. The total sample included 58 nursing home residents with the mean age
of 81.74 ($\pm$ 8.6). According to CDR 32.8% (n=19) of participants fulfill the criteria of dementia, 27.6% (n=16) of MCI and 39.7% (n=23)
were considered as healthy.
Results: The internal consistencies (Crohnbach's a) of the SLUMS test was 0.7031. The average of total SLUMS score were 23.3 in
healthy participants, 19.3 in MCI and 13.1 in demented residents. The statistical analysis illustrated that SLUMS differentiate the dementia
residents from those considered as MCI (p=0.01), as well as from healthy participant (p=0.0001). Furthermore, it is also useful in conducting
the differential diagnosis between MCI and healthy participants (p=0.017), where MMSE does not offer such a possibility (MCI vs healthy, p=0.51)
Conclusions: It seems that the SLUMS is not just another screening tool that can complement the range of existing cognitive tests in Polish
clinical practice. Preliminary statistical analysis demonstrated its superior capabilities in the screening diagnosis compared to most famous
test in Poland, MMSE.