

KARL JASPERS' CLASSIFICATION OF MELANCHOLIA FROM THE DEPRESSIONS

1. UNMOTIVATED DEPRESSED MOOD/
DEPRESSED MOOD

Present, proceed to 2
Absent, stop

Possible Melancholia
PSYCHIATRIC DISORDER

2. UNMOTIVATED DEPRESSED MOOD
3. DEPERSONALISATION/
DEREALISATION
4. MOOD-CONGRUENT PSYCHOTIC SYMPTOMS
5. OBSESSIVE THOUGHTS
6. ANXIETY
7. BODILY MISPERCEPTIONS/
HYPOCHONDRIASIS
8. AGITATION/
MOTOR RESTLESSNESS

At least 4 of 7 present, proceed to 9
Less than 4 of 7 present, proceed to 10

Probable Melancholia
Possible Nagging Depression

9. MANIA/
HYPOMANIA

Present, stop
Absent, stop

PSYCHIATRIC DISORDER
MELANCHOLIA

10. UNMOTIVATED DEPRESSED MOOD
11. DRIVEN COMPLAINTIVENESS

Both present, proceed to 11
Less than 2 present, proceed to 12

Probable Nagging Depression
Possible Pure Depression

12. MANIA/
HYPOMANIA

Present, stop
Absent, stop

PSYCHIATRIC DISORDER
NAGGING DEPRESSION

13. UNMOTIVATED DEPRESSED MOOD
14. RETARDED THINKING
15. MOTOR RETARDATION/
STUPOR

- 16. LACK OF DRIVE
- 17. ABULIA/
INDECISIVENESS
- 18. RESTRICTED THINKING
- 19. ANHEDONIA
- 20. SELF-INCRIMINATION
- 21. FEELING OF INADEQUACY
- 22. FEELINGS OF IMPOVERISHMENT

At least 4 of 10 present, proceed to 22
Less than 4 of 10 present, proceed to 23

Probable Pure Depression
Possible Wailing Depression

- 23. MANIA/
HYPOMANIA

Present, stop
Absent, stop

PSYCHIATRIC DISORDER
PURE DEPRESSION

- 24. DEPRESSED MOOD
- 25. COMPLAINTIVENESS

Both present, proceed to 25
Less than 2 present, stop

Probable Wailing Depression
PSYCHIATRIC DISORDER

- 26. MANIA/
HYPOMANIA

Present, stop
Absent, stop

PSYCHIATRIC DISORDER
WAILING DEPRESSION

It consists of a total number of 34 digits, based on 26 codes included in 26 variables organised into 9 decision clusters, yielding 4 diagnoses.

It is based on the 7th edition of Karl Jaspers' *Allgemeine Psychopathologie*, published in 1959 in which melancholia was separated from pure depression, nagging depression and wailing depression (melancholia). In revised CODE-DD melancholia is characterised by unmotivated depressed mood, depersonalisation (derealisation), mood congruent psychotic symptoms, obsessive thoughts, anxiety, bodily misperceptions (hypochondriasis) and agitation (motor restlessness); pure depression by unmotivated depressed mood, retarded thinking, motor retardation (stupor), lack of drive, abulia (indecisiveness), restricted thinking, anhedonia, self-incrimination, feeling of inadequacy, and feelings of impoverishment; nagging depression by unmotivated depressed mood with driven complaintiveness; and wailing depression by depressed mood with complaintiveness.

JASPERS K (1963) GENERAL PSYCHOPATHOLOGY TRANSLATED FROM THE GERMAN 7TH EDITION BY J HOENIG AND MARION W HAMILTON. MANCHESTER: UNIVERSITY PRESS, MANCHESTER, pp. 596-598

JASPERS K (1959) Allgemeine Psychopathologie. 7 Aufl. Springer, Berlin

KARL JASPERS' SEPARATION OF MELANCHOLIA FROM THE DEPRESSIONS

MELANCHOLIA

NAGGING DEPRESSION

PURE DEPRESSION

WAILING DEPRESSION