The relationship between psychiatric symptomatology types and difficulties with activity caused by a nervous system or sensory organ condition among Latinx’s

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The relationship between psychiatric symptomatology types and difficulties with activity caused by a nervous system or sensory organ condition among Latinx’s.

**BACKGROUND**
- Individuals with medical conditions and chronic illnesses are often underdiagnosed and not treated for mental health conditions which commonly co-occur with their health problems.
- The Latinx community, around an estimated 60.6 million of the U.S. population as of 2019, is especially underrepresented in mental and general health care literature.

**PRESENT STUDY**
- This study aims to explore the relationship between the psychiatric symptomatology of depression and anxiety and difficulties with activity caused by nervous system or sensory organ conditions within Latinx adults.
- Exploring the relationship between mental health and physical health is imperative for identifying better practices and innovative ways to respond to healthcare needs.

**METHODS**
- The sample for this study was drawn from the Health Interview Survey (NHIS, 2019). See chart below for a breakdown of participants’ age and sex.
- Anxiety was measured using the Generalized Anxiety Disorder scale (GAD-7) and depression was measured by the Depressive Disorder Scale (PHQ-8).
- Bivariate analyses and a multiple regression analysis were performed to examine the relationship between psychiatric symptoms (i.e., depression and anxiety) and difficulties with activity caused by nervous system and sensory organ conditions.

**RESULTS**
- The correlation between anxiety and depression (respectively) and difficulties with activity from nervous system or sensory organ conditions was statistically significant, r (947) = +.087, (p < .05) and r (947) = + .098,( p < .05).
- Analyses found that participants who experienced higher frequencies of anxiety and depression also experienced greater difficulties with activity from a nervous system or sensory organ condition.

**RESULTS CONTINUED**
- The overall regression, including four predictors (anxiety, depression, age, and gender), was statistically significant, R = .106, (F (4, 945) = 2.66, p < .05) with an R² = .011.

**DISCUSSION**
- This study supports the need for broader integrated mental health treatment in the medical field for individuals.
- This research also supports the importance of integrating mental health care with physical health care for the Latinx population which may be a preferable and culturally responsive approach.

**FUTURE DIRECTIONS**
- Future research should examine more specific factors which influence the pathway from anxiety and depression to nervous system and sensory organ difficulties.

**REFERENCES**

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