

**TITLE OF THE PROJECT: Depression and social outcome / Depression and social determinants**

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**SUMMARY****Background**

Research has observed large social inequalities with regard to depression, whereby individuals with low socioeconomic position are more likely to be depressed and have severe and persistent symptoms. However the contribution of socioeconomic position to depression and the impact of depressive symptoms on socioeconomic position are not yet fully understood. One aspect that is not yet elucidated is the role of different socioeconomic characteristics over the short and long-term. Another area that requires investigation is the contribution of access to treatment to socioeconomic inequalities in depression. Finally, the impact of depression may be different depending on individuals' socioeconomic position, but data on this topic are rare.

**Objectives**

The aims of this project will be to test long-term associations between socioeconomic characteristics such as educational attainment, occupational grade, employment status, financial resources and migrant status and depression as well as access to treatment in case of depressive symptoms. Moreover, among individuals depressed at study baseline, we will study changes in socioeconomic position from baseline onwards. Data from the CONSTANCES cohort study is particularly suitable for this project for several reasons: a) large sample size; b) validated measures of depressive symptoms; c) multiple measures of socioeconomic position including occupational trajectories; d) access to data on antidepressant treatment and hospitalizations due to depression.

**Methods**

Depressive states will be measured at baseline and every three years by the CESD scale. Data will be analyzed controlling for factors such as sex, age, marital status, life events, health behaviors and overweight and using the most appropriate statistical methods (logistic and linear regression for cross-sectional data, Cox regression or GEE models for prospective analyses depending on whether they are based on repeated measures or not). We will systematically test for age and sex differences in associations between socioeconomic position and depression.

**Perspectives**

The results of this study will help understand the mechanisms underlying socioeconomic inequalities in depression, and potentially inform strategies aiming to decrease them.

Note: this project is part of the research consortium 'DEDALE - Déterminants et évolution des états dépressifs : approche longitudinale en épidémiologie intégrative'