Background:
- HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) is estimated to affect one million persons in the United States, and more people infected with HIV are living past the age of 50.
- HIV infection is associated with worse mental health and well being. There is a common notion that persons infected with HIV utilize psychotropic medication more than persons not infected with HIV.

Objective: The aim of this study is to examine the association between HIV status and psychotropic medication usage in older adults.

Methods:
- A cross-sectional study design was used to study the association of HIV infection status with the use of psychotropic medications in older adults (age > 50 years).
- Baseline medication utilization data were analyzed from HIV-infected and HIV-uninfected older persons enrolled in the Rush Center of Excellence on Disparities in HIV and Aging (CEDHA) research cohort.
- Descriptive statistics, chi-square and t-test were conducted to examine the association between HIV status and psychotropic medication use.

Variables:
- Using the raw data collected in the database from Rush CEDHA Research Core participants
- Assessment of HIV Status: was confirmed using an OraQuick HIV screening test.
- Assessment of Psychotropic Medication Use: were documented by Rush CEDHA Research Core staff in Blaise® coded forms

Other Covariates: Demographic information was obtained from participants during their baseline interviews

Results:
Of 362 participants, 177 were HIV-infected and 185 were HIV-uninfected. The mean age of the cohort was 58.6 years (SD = 6.5 years), mean years of education was 13.3 years (SD=2.8 years). At baseline, 65 (18%) of HIV-infected participants were taking a psychotropic medication as compared to 23 (6.35%) of HIV-uninfected older participants ($\chi^2$ statistic = 29, p-value <0.001). Anti-depressant, anti-anxiety, and anti-psychotic medications were significantly more used among HIV-infected subjects than in HIV-uninfected while the use of insomnia medications was not different between the groups.

Conclusion:
- HIV-infected older persons are more likely to use psychotropic medications than their HIV-uninfected counterparts.
- Further research is required to address the potential factors associated with the use of psychotropic in this unique patient group and whether or not these factors can be prevented or modified.

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