

### **PS1.233**

#### **Late-life depression or cancer?**

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**Objective:** Depressed mood may be the first symptom of a number of medical conditions affecting the elderly including cancer.

Case Report: 75 years-old-male, caucasian, retired as bus driver. His medical history; TBC during youth, ex-smoker (60 pack years), type II diabetes mellitus and atherosclerosis.

Ambulatory medication: metformin, clopidogrel and rosuvastatin.

He attends GP due to unexplained and progressive asthenia, irritability and anhedonia for the past 3 months. He denied sadness or any other psychological symptom. Physical examination was normal. Various exams were performed, all normal except the laboratorial tests: hemoglobin of 11.0, a platelet count 534.100, WBC 20,000 and Ferritin 725. We suspected a paraneoplastic syndrome, therefore vigilance was held by internal medicine at the local hospital, one month later. A full-body CT scan was performed. CT chest and lung biopsy results confirmed a stage IIIB Non-small cell lung cancer with frontal lobe metastasis. The patient died 6 months later.

**Conclusions:** This case relates a short period evolution of common and debilitating diseases, such as cancer and depression. Both can be linked together in a late-life depression, as reported. The primary care provider has an important role in recognizing clinical manifestations of this condition in its early stages and in initiating the appropriate diagnostic workup.