Chronic Diseases

There appears to be an association between major depression and chronic diseases. Depression might lead to chronic disease and chronic disease can worsen the symptoms of depression. People with depression are less likely to seek or follow through with treatment for their chronic diseases. Thus, timely diagnosis and treatment of major depression could positively impact the course and treatment of chronic disease(s).

Major Depression by Told Had Heart Attack, Utah, 2005–2007

Heart Attack

Of those persons who had been told by a doctor that they had a heart attack, 10.1% had major depression, and of those persons that had not been told that they had a heart attack, 4.0% had major depression. These rates were statistically significantly different.

Stroke

Of those persons who had been told by a doctor that they had a stroke, 12.0% had major depression, and of those persons who had not been told that they had a stroke, 3.9% had major depression. These rates were statistically significantly different.

Major Depression by Told Had Stroke, Utah, 2005–2007
Of those persons who had been told by a doctor that they had high blood pressure (hypertension), 7.7% had major depression, and of those persons who had not been told that they had high blood pressure, 3.6% had major depression. These rates were statistically significantly different.

Of those persons who reported current asthma, 8.2% had major depression. Of those persons who did not report current asthma, 3.7% had major depression. These rates were statistically significantly different.

Of those persons who had been told by a doctor that they had diabetes, 6.2% had major depression. Of those persons who had not been told that they had diabetes, 3.9% had major depression. These rates were statistically significantly different.
Arthritis

Of those persons who had been told by a doctor that they had arthritis, 7.5% had major depression. Of those persons who had not been told that they had arthritis, 2.9% had major depression. These rates were statistically significantly different.