

The relationship and relevant factors between sleep disturbance and depressive symptoms in adolescents

Xi Yin *

Winston Churchill High School, Potomac, Maryland, United States

* Corresponding Author Email: 1811061240@mail.sit.edu.cn

Abstract. Depression and sleep difficulties have a strong association. Depression may coexist with long-term sleep difficulties in some people, and vice versa for those who already have depression, they are more likely to develop sleep disturbance. In other words, the development of one symptom can trigger the development of another. Patients must therefore pay close attention to their sleep difficulties. Numerous psychiatric illnesses that are related to sleep difficulties might worsen a patient's overall condition. If the issue of sleep difficulties is not resolved in a timely manner, it may eventually lead to the appearance of other connected psychiatric illnesses, which may make the patient's condition worse overall. Depression is a prevalent mental illness. Clinical symptoms of depression commonly include tiredness, delayed thinking, and diminished volitional activity. Sleep disturbances can arise for a variety of reasons, including physical illnesses and psychological issues. This review can provide some suggestions for the development of prevention and intervention programs for individuals with depression and sleep disturbance.

Keywords: depression; sleep problem; adolescents; depressive symptoms; sleep duration.

1. Introduction

Sleep issues and depression are frequent mental health issues that significantly affect patients' functionality and quality of life. Sleep disorders are abnormalities that affect the onset, maintenance, quality, or duration of sleep [1]. A mood condition called depression is defined by a persistently downbeat attitude, a lack of interest and enjoyment, as well as a variety of medical and psychological symptoms [2]. One of the most prevalent mental diseases, depression often manifests in adolescence. 90% of depressed individuals experience sleep disturbances to varied degrees, including trouble falling asleep, early awakenings, reduced fast-wave sleep cycles, etc. Improving the patient's sleep problem is the first step in whether depression will get better or worse. The degree of sleep disruption can also be used as a preliminary indicator of depression's severity and recovery. Examine the various triggers of teen depression from the standpoint of stress, concentrating on anxiety, and an excessive amount of mental effort. Teenagers today typically misuse their brains due to hefty academic loads, which results in excessive mental effort and makes the brain hyperactive. brings on insomnia. poor resilience of the nervous system Each individual's neurological system has a different endurance.

Teenagers' bodies operate at a very sluggish pace. Their neural systems are quickly overloaded. They are more prone to endocrine abnormalities, and they have insomnia symptoms as a result. Teenagers often experience extreme mental and physical stress as a result of their demanding academic schedules and frequent exams [1]. They eventually develop mental acuity issues and sleeplessness. They will have insomnia since they won't get enough sleep. The signs of sleeplessness will become worse over time if mental health declines, creating a vicious cycle. cycle of sleep inversion Many adolescent students find it difficult to fall asleep at night, and they frequently feel sleepy during class, nap, and in the afternoon. These are signs of biological cycle abnormalities brought on by inconsistent sleep. Teenagers with epilepsy and seizures frequently experience sadness, and many may not receive quick diagnosis or treatment. This review shows that effective, empirically supported diagnosis, management, and prevention of adolescent depression have promise for lowering the high burden of depression.

Humans benefit greatly from sleep's restorative properties, and it aids in memory consolidation [2]. The connection between homeostatic sleep requirements and the circadian pacemaker is seen in the significant leveling of nighttime sleep consolidation and daytime wakefulness. Age causes the circadian system's resilience to decline and the prevalence of sleep problems to rise. Unusual sleeping habits are linked to a higher risk of sickness, worse quality of life, and even death. The first step in resolving the issue of inadequate sleep is to create a regular schedule for people's work and rest. Better sleep quality can only be achieved by maintaining organized work and relaxation. Try to relax before going to bed. Avoid doing too much exercise or staying up late playing video games before bed since these activities will make people's emotions excessively stimulated and hinder their nerves from totally resting. Before going to bed, it is advised to listen to some calming music in order to completely rest from thinking. Teenagers' psychological load will rise in crowded classes and a hostile learning environment. Teenagers will be placed under a lot of pressure because of their parents' expectations and pressure. Proper physical exercise can be a good way to relieve psychological stress.

2. The Role of Sleep Disturbance and Relevant Factors in Depression

Manifestations and causes that cause insomnia may frequently be brought on by emotions, food, internal ailments, illness, advanced age, a lack of resources, a weak heart, shyness, etc. The most significant of them, accounting for up to 65% of chronic insomnia patients, are psychological and spiritual aspects. The major signs are trouble becoming asleep, brief deep slumber, easy waking, trouble falling asleep again, and in extreme cases, patients may stay up all night. Sleeplessness and psychological conditions like depression. There are psychological causes of insomnia. Similar to this, sleeplessness may significantly affect a person's psychological state. The patient's mental health and attitude toward insomnia determine the extent of the psychological impact of insomnia. For instance, a person may have severe insomnia yet still be in good mental health and not experience sleeplessness. Daytime activities and employment are affected, and some people experience listlessness as a result of sporadic insomnia. According to medical study, sleeplessness will negatively impact people's mood the next day, causing them to feel down [3]. Insomnia is the most common type of sleep problem and is the first and most obvious sign of depression. The majority of depressed individuals experience symptoms of sleeplessness, including trouble falling asleep, early or middle-of-the-night awakenings, etc. difficulties settling back to sleep after an early wake-up, moodiness, etc. It further represses the capital.

Depression may result from serotonin not performing its typical function as a result of sleep issues. Circadian rhythms are disturbed, and the body's stress response is impacted by interrupted sleep. According to study, teens are more likely to have mental health issues including sleep disturbances, which are a significant risk factor for depression [3]. Early intervention for depression in young people is still insufficient, despite increases in access to therapy. Depressive episodes and their progression are influenced by a number of intricate biopsychosocial variables. Given that adolescence and the early years of adulthood are the peak years for depressive episodes, circadian disturbance at these times may contribute to the etiology of depression in some people. Around puberty, sleep patterns in humans shift with phase delays in the sleep-wake cycle and melatonin rhythm, which are exhibited by a propensity to stay up later.

Furthermore, circadian rhythms can be impacted by external influences. For instance, exposure to light at night might prevent melatonin from being secreted, which can interfere with sleep. According to research, exposure to outside artificial light at night or inside might have an impact on sleep. In teenagers aged 13 to 18 years, later bedtimes on the weekends are linked to greater risks of mood disorders. Depressive episodes in adolescence have also been connected to irregular eating and sleeping patterns that begin in infancy. The majority of kids who use electronics excessively at night are at risk for depression and sleep difficulties. This study looked at changes in teen smartphone ownership's impact on sleep and nocturnal device use to better understand whether depressed symptoms and sleep disruption interact. The role of sleep disruption in mediating the link between the usage of electronic devices at night and depression symptoms was also investigated. Adolescents

between the ages of 12 and 17 were asked to respond to a questionnaire concerning sleep difficulties and depression symptoms [4]. The association between using electronic devices before bed and depressed symptoms was largely mediated by sleep disruption. Device use was linked to less restful sleep and sleep problems, which were then linked to depressive symptoms. Teenagers should benefit from learning about healthy sleeping patterns and the risks of using technology at night, the study's findings suggest.

The investigation examines the deteriorating sleep patterns of teens. The research's main focus was on the relationship between four distinct kinds of screen time and teenage depression symptoms; a sleep study was also carried out. The study included survey information from 2,865 American youths [5]. Four questionnaires on screen time and symptoms of insomnia were completed by teenagers. Modeling investigation demonstrates that sleep is either a partial or complete mediating factor in the relationship between screen time and depressed symptoms. The correlation between screen time and depressed symptoms for social media, internet surfing, and TV/movie viewing is entirely explained by these three sleep components. At least two main processes may explain the association between circadian irregularity, late bedtimes, and teenage depression. On the one hand, irregular sleep habits and late bedtimes may combine with typical circadian rhythm alterations that occur throughout adolescence, such as delayed sleep-wake phases, resulting in a more unstable circadian rhythm. On the other hand, environmental elements like shifting class schedules and exposure to light at night may make sleep abnormalities and late bedtimes worse. According to research, young individuals frequently experience delayed sleep periods, which are characterized by late bedtimes and early wakes.

Studies on adults and adolescents have discovered an increased likelihood of experiencing depressed symptoms. Numerous clinical research has also demonstrated that people with depression have disturbed circadian rhythms and sleep-wake cycles. Compared to healthy controls, young individuals with depression or bipolar illness also have more difficulties sleeping, eating, socializing, and engaging in general activities. One study found, for instance, that people with depression or anxiety used their big muscle groups less frequently and actively. The movement deficit is more noticeable the more severe the symptoms. The results of the study show that screen use and sleep habits might be targeted to lessen teenage depression symptoms. The study focused on the relationships between screen time, sleep duration, and sleep-related depressive symptoms. This study sought to ascertain if sleep length mediates the association between depression symptoms and sleep and its duration. the connection between depressed symptoms and teenage Chinese youth. Students from Guangzhou, China, were invited to the study [6]. Sleep quality and sleep quality were both substantially correlated with the severity of depressed symptoms. Indirect effects of sleep duration point to a potential mechanism of link between sleep time (ST) and depressive symptoms. Another study looked at the connection between sleep-related screen usage and depressive symptoms. The goal of this study was to determine if sleep duration in Chinese teens mediates the relationship between depressive symptoms and sleep duration. The degree of depressed symptoms was substantially correlated with ST and sleep quality.

The indirect impact of sleep length raises the possibility of a link between depressed symptoms and ST. sleep duration, academic stress, and depression are all related Results from the Chinese Family Tracking Study on teenage symptoms. This study seeks to determine if depressed symptoms affect how depression manifests. It has an effect on young people's physical and mental health and puts a heavy burden on people, families, and society as a whole. The study examined Chinese teenage depression symptoms, academic stress, and sleep length. 6.49% of about 3724 participants in the Chinese Family Panel Study (CFPS) were male. In this study, Chinese teenagers showed depression symptoms [7]. Less than six hours of sleep every night and those who are under scholastic stress have a higher risk of developing depressive symptoms. A study demonstrates the necessity of lowering academic stress. Teenagers take the necessary steps to sleep more soundly and less frequently experience depression symptoms.

3. Environmental Factors and Long-Term Trajectories

Affects the quality of sleep Reduced sleep quality is a common issue for depressed patients. They frequently struggle to fall asleep, wake up without much effort, suffer from insomnia, and wake up early. In a vicious loop, these sleep issues make depressed sufferers' conditions much worse. Depression sufferers' biological clocks and autonomic nerve systems are compromised, which throws off their sleep patterns. Their sleep quality also suffers as a result of the disruption to their sleep-wake pattern. Depression risk is higher. In addition to being one of the symptoms of depression, sleep disruption may also signal the beginning of depression. It is widely used to treat depression and aids patients in getting back to their regular sleeping patterns by modifying their negative thought patterns and behavioral tendencies. In order to reduce symptoms of depression, people with good sleeping habits are essential. Patients are counseled to have a regular sleeping pattern and refrain from taking protracted naps or engaging in excessive activity at night. Before going to bed, patients can also practice relaxation techniques including deep breathing, meditation, or warm water soaking. Depression and sleep difficulties can be treated and relieved by altering bad lifestyle patterns. In order to enhance physical and mental health as well as sound sleep, patients should aim to create healthy diet and exercise habits. Stimulants like alcohol and coffee should also be avoided by patients. supportive manner. People who are depressed require assistance and support from their family and the community.

The purpose of this study was to look at the relationship between teen sleep length and daytime energy levels associated with depression. The study also examined the effects of various parental evening rules on the amount of sleep teenagers get. Experimental approach an online survey was completed by 193 teenagers between the ages of 14 and 17 and their parents. A seven-day online course on opinion surveys was also completed by teenagers [8]. Throughout the day, they reported on their slept habits, level of vitality, and depressed symptoms. Currently, the typical parent is 47.6 years old. Parents evaluated the application of the bedtime-related guideline. Results indicate that later start times for school and earlier bedtimes can both result in longer sleep duration in adolescents predicted and linked to depressive symptoms in adolescents. The importance of adolescents getting adequate nutrition and sleep to support their mental health.

This longitudinal research on the connection between sleep length and depression in teens mostly confirmed the crucial function of sleep duration and melancholy mood. The China Education Monitoring Survey (CEPS) provided the information. The 8,829 seventh graders in the research, who were between the ages of 14 and 17, were examined [9]. Using structural equation modeling (SEM), researchers are able to examine how parents, children, and teachers influence how much sleep teens get. The relationship between teenage depression and sleep duration is investigated using the autoregressive cross-lagged model. According to studies, depression and sleep quality interact and have long-lasting repercussions.

By analyzing three impacts, this study seeks to eliminate these discrepancies, focusing on the many effects and implications of sleep issues in teenagers. In Taiwan, samples were 1283 adolescent girls and 1345 adolescent boys [10]. These investigations estimated between- and within-individual effects using mean depression ratings and scores across time, respectively. Since depression has significant short- and long-term effects on adolescents, those with greater levels of depression are more likely to have sleep problems in the future. The findings of the study shed light on the likelihood of having sleep issues and the timing of this likelihood depending on the effect.

4. Conclusion

Teenagers' biological characteristics enable rapid physical and mental growth, which leads to changes in their sleep habits and needs, which in turn can affect the amount and quality of their naps. Teenagers who are under external stress put a lot of burden on their relationships with their families, friends, and school. These responsibilities could have an adverse effect on their sleep quality. Teenagers frequently lack sleep due to their early start hours for school. Teenagers' environment,

which may include elements like noise, light, and temperature, may have an influence on the quality of their sleep. Social and family factors, such as parents' later bedtimes, nocturnal employment, extracurricular activities, may also have an impact on teens' sleep habits. Teenagers' lifestyle decisions, including what they eat, how much they exercise, and how much they use devices, especially excessively, will have an effect on the production of melatonin and the relaxation of their brains, which will in turn affect the quality of their sleep. Psychological aspects, such as worry before bed, anxiety, and recurring sleep problems, are highly sensitive. Some of the signs of associated emotional diseases are depression, anxiety, compulsive, bi-phase, and stress-induced emotional blockage. Previous studies focused mainly on one culture. Future research should investigate the relationship between sleep disturbance and depression across different cultures.

References

- [1] Zisapel N. Sleep and sleep disturbances: biological basis and clinical implications. *Cellular and Molecular Life Sciences*, 2007, 64 (10): 1174 – 1186.
- [2] Hankin B. L. Adolescent depression: Description, causes, and interventions. *Epilepsy & Behavior*, 2006, 8 (1): 102 – 114.
- [3] Lemola S., Perkinson-Gloor N., Brand S., Dewald-Kaufmann J., Grob A. Adolescents' electronic media use at night, sleep disturbance, and depressive symptoms in the smartphone age. *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*, 2014, 44 (2): 405 – 418.
- [4] Gupta P., Sagar R., Mehta M. Subjective sleep problems and sleep hygiene among adolescents having depression: A case-control study. *Asian Journal of Psychiatry*, 2019, 44: 150 – 155.
- [5] Li X., Buxton O. M., Lee S., Chang A. M., Berger L. M., Hale L. Sleep mediates the association between adolescent screen time and depressive symptoms. *Sleep Medicine*, 2019, 57: 51 – 60.
- [6] Wang W., Du X., Guo Y., Li W., Zhang S., Zhang W., McIntyre R. S., Tamura J. K., Guo L., Lu C. Associations among screen time, sleep duration and depressive symptoms among Chinese adolescents. *Journal of Affective Disorders*, 2021, 284: 69 – 74.
- [7] Zhou T., Cheng G., Wu X., Li R., Li C., Tian G., He S., Yan Y. The Associations between Sleep Duration, Academic Pressure, and Depressive Symptoms among Chinese Adolescents: Results from China Family Panel Studies. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 2021, 18 (11): 6134.
- [8] Peltz J. S., Rogge R. D., Connolly H. V. Parents still matter: the influence of parental enforcement of bedtime on adolescents' depressive symptoms. *Sleep*, 2019, 43 (5).
- [9] Gao M., Li X., Lee C., Ma H., Chen T., Zhang S., Chiang Y. Sleep duration and depression among adolescents: Mediation effect of collective integration. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 2022, 13.
- [10] Chang L., Chang H., Lin L., Wu C., Yen L. Disentangling the effects of depression on trajectories of sleep problems from adolescence through young adulthood. *Journal of Affective Disorders*, 2017, 217: 48 – 54.