

**Table 3 -- Some Risk Factors for Depression**

- ◆ Alcohol or substance abuse
- ◆ Current use of a medication associated with a high risk of depression (see Table 5)
- ◆ Hearing or vision impairment severe enough to affect function
- ◆ History of attempted suicide
- ◆ History of psychiatric hospitalization
- ◆ Medical diagnosis or diagnoses associated with a high risk of depression (see Table 6)
- ◆ New admission or change in environment
- ◆ New stressful losses, including loss of autonomy, loss of privacy, loss of functional status, loss of body part, or loss of family member or friend
- ◆ Personal or family history of depression or mood disorder

**Table 4 -- Laboratory Tests for Evaluating Possible Depression**

<b>Preferred Tests</b>	<b>Other Tests That May Be Considered</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Chemistry profile (electrolytes, blood urea nitrogen, creatinine, glucose)</li><li>• Complete blood count</li><li>• Serum levels of anticonvulsant or tricyclic antidepressant, if taking either type of medication</li><li>• Thyroid function (T3, T4, TSH)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Electrocardiogram</li><li>• Folate level</li><li>• Serum calcium level</li><li>• Serum level of digoxin or theophylline, if taking either medication</li><li>• Urinalysis</li><li>• Vitamin B12 level</li></ul>

Adapted from Alexopoulos et al, 2001<sup>5</sup>

**Table 5 -- Medications That May Cause Symptoms of Depression**

- Anabolic steroids
- Anti-arrhythmic medications (e.g., amiodarone, mexiletine)
- Anticonvulsant medications
- Barbiturates
- Benzodiazepines
- Carbidopa or levodopa
- Certain beta-adrenergic antagonists (e.g., propranolol)
- Clonidine
- Cytokines (specifically IL-2)
- Digitalis preparations
- Glucocorticoids
- H2 blockers
- Metoclopramide
- Opioids