

Abstract

Objective

This study investigated the prevalence rate of depressive and anxiety symptoms, as well as the perceived barriers of accessing mental health services faced by the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (D/HH) population in Hong Kong.

Methods

A cross-sectional study was conducted in Hong Kong by distributing online survey via Qualtrics platform. Data was collected during the period of 2nd March 2021 to 23rd March 2021. Hong Kong residents who (a) aged above or equals to 18; (b) with no cognitive impairments; (c) able to read and understand Chinese were eligible. Self-reported depressive and anxiety symptoms were assessed by the Chinese version of PHQ-9 and GAD-7 respectively. Subjective wellbeing was examined by the Hong Kong Chinese version of World Health Organization Quality-of-Life Scale- abbreviated version (WHOQOL-BREF) and Insomnia Severity Index (ISI). Barriers to Access to Care Evaluation (BACE-3) were used to identify the major barriers when seeking mental health care for D/HH with mental health problems.

Results

101 persons with any degree of hearing impairments took part in the survey, forty-nine valid responses were used for analysis (a response rate of 49%). The overall prevalence of mild depressive symptoms were

Conclusion