## Skeehchooash Pequot for Grasses, Herbs, Medicines

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PEQUOT PHARMACEUTICAL NETWORK • PHARMACY NEWSLETTER

## Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) What is seasonal affective Disorder

 Seasonal affective disorder (SAD) is a type of depression that's related to changes in seasons — SAD begins and ends at about the same times every year. If you're like most people with SAD, your symptoms start in the fall and continue into the winter months, sapping your energy and making you feel moody.

## Signs and symptoms of SAD

- Feeling listless, sad or down most of the day, nearly every day
- Losing interest in activities you once enjoyed
- Having low energy and feeling sluggish
- Having problems with sleeping too much
- Experiencing carbohydrate cravings, overeating and weight gain
- Having difficulty concentrating
- Feeling hopeless, worthless or guilty
- · Having thoughts of not wanting to live

## When to see a doctor

- It's normal to have some days when you feel down. But if you feel down for days at a time and you can't get motivated to do activities you normally enjoy, see your health care provider. This is especially important if your sleep patterns and appetite have changed, you turn to alcohol for comfort or relaxation, or you feel hopeless or think about suicide.
- Don't brush off that yearly feeling as simply a case of the "winter blues" or a seasonal funk that you have to tough out on your own. Take steps to keep your mood and motivation steady throughout the year.

Source: <u>https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-</u> conditions/seasonal-affective-disorder/symptoms-causes/syc-20364651

NETWORK

**Health Benefit Services** 

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