





Community and Mental Health Services

7 February 2023

***Please visit https://www.evidentlybetter.org/bulletins/suicide-prevention/
to view our webpage featuring key links and emerging reports about suicide prevention.***

Studies

<u>Investigating How People Who Self-harm Evaluate Web-Based Lived Experience Stories: Focus</u>
Group Study

The positive and negative effects of interacting with web-based content on mental health, and especially self-harm, are well documented. Lived experience stories are one such type of static web-based content, frequently published on health care or third-sector organization websites, as well as social media and blogs, as a form of support for those seeking help via the web.

Behavioral and location-related antecedents of train suicides

In the European Union, over 2000 suicides on railway premises were reported in 2020. Identifying individuals' behavioral and location patterns just before they die or attempt to die by train suicide (ITS) is critical for effective prevention of suicides by train. We conducted a naturalistic study using a newly developed instrument for the assessment of fatalities in rail traffic that used information from on-site video cameras.

The importance of school culture in supporting student mental health in secondary schools. Insights from a qualitative study

Schools have the potential to provide a place of education and sanctuary for children and young people of all backgrounds. The rise in mental health problems in children and young people in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly in relation to growing inequities, means that identifying ways in which schools can help respond to this growing mental health crisis demands urgent attention. This paper reports on case studies carried out in two London comprehensive schools, exploring how aspects of school culture impact (both positively and negatively) on student mental health.

Psychosocial Aspects of Deliberate Physical Suicide Attempts by Children and Adolescents

Suicide is the second most common cause of death among young people in Lithuania. This study aimed to evaluate circumstance, and conditions possibly related to suicide attempt in adolescents. Study was performed at the tertiary Children's Hospital. Medical documentation of the suicide attempts from January 2011 to April 2018 was analyzed. There were 102 cases included in the study: 83.8% female and 16.2% male patients (average age of 15.02 \pm 1.9); 40.6% of patients lived in divorced families, 17.7% in orphanages, 4.2% in foster care; 36.4% suffered from parental alcoholism, and 17.2% experienced suicide in close surroundings; 54.1% experienced bullying or violence (26.0%), and 85.4% showed signs of other types of self-harm, girls more often (P < .001). In 52.8% of cases, the attempt was spontaneous, and 34% relapsed. In summary female gender, living in orphanages, and signs of other self-harm were significantly related to suicide attempt.







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Statistics

Drug-related deaths and suicide in prison custody in England and Wales: 2008 to 2019

The risk of suicide and drug-related deaths among prisoners, based on confidential matching of data from HM Prison and Probation Service and Office for National Statistics mortality records.

Blogs

<u>Tackling structural racism in suicide prevention: a conceptual framework</u>

This concept paper highlights the higher suicide risks and rates among ethnoracial minoritised young people in the United States, as compared with white Americans (Alvarez et al, 2022). For example, although the samples are small, Black youth aged 5-12 have twice the suicide rate as White youth. Suicide is a terrible event, rare in epidemiological terms, presenting some challenges evaluating effective interventions and interpreting statistics. The authors set out a concept framework to prevent and respond to structural racism and related mechanisms that explain racial disparities in risks and rates of completed suicide in young people.

Ketamine and suicidal ideation: French trial finds modest short-term effects

Suicide is a leading cause of death. There were around 5,500 deaths by suicide registered in England and Wales (ONS, 2021); the numbers worldwide are around 800,000 (WHO, 2016). Suicidal acts are preceded by suicidal ideas, though most suicidal ideas will not lead to a suicidal act. It is a challenging area to study and we have limited evidence-based options for treating people who are experiencing a suicidal crisis.

News

<u>Parents 'horrified' by response to petition after suicide of Bristol student</u>

The parents of <u>Natasha Abrahart</u>, who took her own life while studying at the University of Bristol, have reacted with "absolute horror" to the government's response to their <u>petition</u> calling for a statutory legal duty of care for all students in higher education.

<u>Urge for practitioners to increase support around internet safety</u>

People who access support around suicide and self-harm are urging practitioners to have more conversations around online safety. The plea follows a survey of over 80 people with lived experience carried out by Samaritans, which revealed that almost all respondents (94%) had never been asked by a practitioner about their online activity around these issues.

Government Action on Major Conditions and Diseases - Statement made on 24 January 2023 Statement made by Steve Barclay, Secretary of State for Health and Social Care.

<u>Australia needs targeted mental healthcare to prevent further international student deaths by suicide, research finds</u>

International student deaths by suicide will continue if gaps in delivering targeted mental healthcare aren't addressed, research suggests.

<u>Victoria records highest number of annual suicides since 2000 amid fears of national trend</u>
Data collected by the state coroners court shows 756 suicides occurred in Victoria in 2022, up 9% from 2021.

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