





Community and Mental Health Services

4 September 2023

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

Systematic Review

<u>Effectiveness of the Australian MATES in Construction Suicide Prevention Program: a systematic</u> review

While the MATES program is well documented in the literature and has a published program logic model, evaluation research on the MATES program to date has focussed on near- to medium-term outcomes, often with low causal inference research designs. While the current evidence is favourable, future research should prioritize higher causal inference studies and more emphasis on longer-term outcomes. From a broader public health perspective, further evaluation of the implementation and effectiveness of the MATES 'Outrage, Hope, Action' engagement model may inform strategies for the diffusion of MATES and other suicide prevention programs.

Studies

Sleep deprivation and suicide risk among minoritized US adolescents

Emphasis on suicide interventions is of the essence, especially with increasing rates. Sleep duration significantly predicts suicide risk among all adolescents. Additional research is needed to assess factors that predict suicide among minoritized adolescents, specifically Black and Hispanic adolescents.

A Bibliometric Analysis of Global Research Trends on Suicidal Ideation

The evidence from this study recognises the United States, Canada, Australia and the United Kingdom as the most productive countries in the world that have contributed to an enormous amount of publications on suicidal ideation areas and built a strong foundation on international collaborations to maximise insights gained from research findings. This analysis provides information on the trends of suicidal ideation research and will serve as a guide for researchers who wish to study the topic growth and development over the years.

Remote blended treatment for individuals with suicidal ideation: A single-arm proof-of-concept trial

We included 10 participants. All patients were satisfied with the treatment; most patients (80%) reported unpleasant memories resurfacing. All patients completed all therapy sessions and a mean of 13.7 modules (SD = 5.7); three patients switched to face-to-face treatment, in one case due to safety concerns. All patients and most therapists (83.3%) found the treatment overall practicable. Most patients (66.7%) and therapists (66.7%) considered remote treatment equivalent to face-to-face therapy. There were no serious adverse events.

<u>Changes in self-reported suicidal ideation during treatment with electroconvulsive therapy: A retrospective cohort study</u>

Electroconvulsive therapy treatment was associated with reductions in self-reported SI. These results support the use of ECT in the treatment of patients with SI, but further research is needed to determine the effects of ECT on suicidal behavior.

















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Social anxiety and interpersonal risk for suicidal ideation: A longitudinal daily diary analysis
Study results are consistent with the proposition that increases in interpersonal distress may
explain socially anxious persons' vulnerability to SI. Implications of these findings for the research,
assessment, and treatment of suicidality in social anxiety are discussed.

<u>Comparing self-harming intentions underlying eating disordered behaviors and nonsuicidal self-injury:</u> Replication and extension in adolescents

Participants reported at least some intent to hurt themselves physically in the moment and in the long-term when engaging in all ED behaviors and NSSI, and reported engaging in these behaviors while thinking about suicide. Direct self-harming knowledge and intentions were most frequently reported with NSSI and longer-term knowledge and intentions via NSSI and restrictive eating. Additionally, participants reported some suicidal thoughts and intentions across behaviors.

<u>Association of hospitalization for suicide attempts in adolescent girls with subsequent hospitalization for eating disorders</u>

Adolescent girls admitted for a suicide attempt had 5.55 times the risk of eating disorder hospitalization over time (95% CI 3.74–8.23), compared with matched controls. Suicide attempt was associated with anorexia nervosa (HR 3.57, 95% CI 1.78–7.17) and bulimia nervosa and other eating disorders (HR 8.55, 95% CI 5.48–13.32). Associations were pronounced in girls with repeated suicide attempts. Girls who attempted suicide through self-poisoning had an elevated risk of anorexia nervosa, whereas girls who used violent methods such as cutting or piercing had a greater risk of bulimia nervosa and other eating disorders. Suicide attempt was strongly associated with eating disorder hospitalization in the year following the attempt, but associations persisted throughout follow-up.

<u>Sex-differential association of suicide attempts with thyroid dysfunction in first-episode and drugnaive young major depressive disorder patients with comorbid anxiety</u>

In summary, our study found that the prevalence of suicide attempts was higher in young MDA patients than in MDNA patients, and there were no sex differences. This suggests that for the young population, male and female MDA patients face the same suicide risk and should be given adequate suicide assessment and early intervention. Patients with suicide attempts had thyroid dysfunction compared to young MDA patients without suicide attempts. In addition, the indicators of thyroid function which could predict suicide attempts in MDA patients had sex differences. We found that TPOAb levels were independently associated with suicide attempts in both male and female patients, whereas TSH levels were independently associated with suicide attempts in male patients only. In addition, anxiety levels, psychiatric symptoms, and disease severity were risk factors for suicide attempts only in female patients. However, because of the limitations mentioned above, future studies will need to use a longitudinal design to confirm the findings in this study.

















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Folic acid prescription and suicide attempt prevention: effect of past suicidal behaviour, psychiatric diagnosis and psychotropic medication

Data on 866 586 patients were collected; 704 514 (81.3%) were female and 90 296 (10.4%) were aged 60 years or older. Hazard rates for folic acid showed a lower rate of suicidal events and did not differ based on prior suicide attempt or based on a diagnosis of a psychiatric disorder or being treated with psychotropic medication. Folic acid associations with lower hazard rates for suicidal events were statistically significant in all groups except prior suicide attempters, which had a small sample size (n = 1286).

Editorial

New guidance for self-harm: an opportunity not to be missed

In this editorial we, as members of the 2022 NICE Guideline Committee, highlight and discuss what, in our view, are the key guideline recommendations (generated through evidence synthesis and consensus) for mental health professionals when caring for people after self-harm, and we consider some of the implementation challenges.

Event

Amparo remembrance event

This event is for anyone bereaved or affected by suicide and will include poetry, music, readings and remembrance. It will be held on 28 September from 7pm at the Quaker Building in Liverpool. See the attached poster for more information or book on Eventbrite.

News

Government suicide prevention fund for charity sector to be boosted

Multi-million-pound fund for charity sector to carry out crucial work - alongside the NHS - to save lives and tackle tragedy of suicide.









