





Community and Mental Health Services

**14 November 2023** 

\*\*\*Please visit <a href="https://www.evidentlybetter.org/bulletins/suicide-prevention/">https://www.evidentlybetter.org/bulletins/suicide-prevention/</a> to view our webpage featuring key links and emerging reports about suicide prevention.\*\*\*

## **Studies**

<u>Life problems in children and adolescents who self-harm: findings from the multicentre study of self-harm in England</u>

The most common problems reported by both genders were social/interpersonal in nature, indicating the need for relevant services embedded in the community (e.g. in schools/colleges). Self-harm assessment and treatment choices for children and adolescents must take age and gender into account. To prevent future self-harm, individualised supports and services are particularly needed for abuse, mental health, and legal problems.

Receiving a gift and feeling robbed: a phenomenological study on parents' experiences of Brief Admissions for teenagers who self-harm at risk for suicide

Brief Admissions may come across as challenging, futile and painful in the life of the parent, yet they may also support a process of recovery and healthy development for the entire family. To realize the full potential of the intervention, mental health professionals providing Brief Admission must be mindful of the challenges the parent may face as their teenager starts self-admitting, tactfully and sensitively preparing the parent for a new parental role.

<u>Enhancing healthcare providers' diagnostic and intervention skills to deal with suicidal patients at</u> emergency departments in the Palestinian hospitals: a quasi experimental study

These results suggest that a brief and carefully developed training intervention can potentially change healthcare providers' perceptions and behaviors toward suicide with a possible impact on clinical care therein.

A nationwide study on time spent on social media and self-harm among adolescents

Adolescents who use social media for more than 3 h daily have an increased probability of engaging in self-harm compared to adolescents who spend less time on social media. This association is present for both boys and girls, in all grades, and for adolescents with or without severe depressive symptoms.

<u>The effectiveness and safety of herbal medicine on suicidal behavior: A PRISMA-compliant systematic review and meta-analysis</u>

Though some of the studies reported significant benefits of HM in improving suicidal behavior in patients with depression, further clarification on some unsolved questions is needed in future well-designed clinical trials.

The relationship between mood disorders, personality disorder and suicidality in adolescence: does general personality disturbance play a significant role in predicting suicidal behavior?

These results point to the importance of early identification of the level of severity of personality pathology at large and its co-occurrence with Major Depression for the management of suicidal risk in adolescence.

















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# Emergency department visits and boarding for pediatric patients with suicidality before and during the COVID-19 pandemic

The number of encounters for suicidality among pediatric patients and the emergency department length of stay for psychiatry boarders has increased during the COVID-19 pandemic. There is a need for acute care mental health services and solutions to emergency department capacity issues.

# The role of problem-solving skills in the prevention of suicidal behaviors: A systematic review and meta-analysis

This meta-analysis revealed an inverse association between problem-solving skills and suicidal behaviors. However, further research is needed to better understand the complex relationship between problem-solving skills and suicidal behaviors.

## **Webinars**

## Zero Suicide Institute Global Forum

A free Global Zero Suicide Institute Forum is being held which will include healthcare leaders, behavioural health experts, digital health innovators, and policymakers from around the world aiming to revolutionise access to behavioural healthcare. The international event aims to bring together conversations on innovation and leadership and will be held virtually on Thursday 16 November, 2-11pm. Those who can't attend live who are registered will be able to watch recordings of the sessions. The speakers include Prof Joe Rafferty CBE, Chief Executive Officer at Mersey Care, Jennifer Kilcoyne, Mersey Care's Clinical Director of the HOPE(S) project, and Claire Iveson, Consultant Clinical Psychologist at Mersey Care.

### Suicide Bereavement In The Workplace

To mark Survivors of Suicide Loss Day on 18th Nov <a href="mailto:@Rethink">@Rethink</a> Support After Suicide Services are delivering free webinars for employers/managers/HR to help them support staff who have experienced a bereavement by suicide. Details - 17 Nov 10-11am or 2pm-3pm.

## News

### Suicide forum blocked to most UK users after Ofcom pressure

A pro-suicide forum has restricted access to users in the UK following pressure from the online regulator. Anyone visiting the site, which promotes suicide, is now met with a banner saying content that violates the UK's new Online Safety Act will not be viewable to the public. The forum can now only be viewed by UK users already signed up as members.

### Bereaved parents say review into student suicides in England is 'slap in the face'

Bereaved parents whose children have killed themselves while at university have criticised the government's planned review of student suicides in England, describing it as "a slap in the face" for families. The higher education minister, Robert Halfon, announced the national review earlier this year amid mounting concern over student mental health and a series of suicides that attracted widespread coverage in the media. However, parents say there are "significant shortcomings" in the proposed terms of reference for the student suicide review. They say the timeframe is too short, looking primarily at suicides and "near misses" – a term they describe as insensitive – in the 2023-24 academic year. They are also concerned that the review as proposed will not be sufficiently rigorous or independent and will be limited instead to a meta-analysis of internal university reports into a student's suicide, produced by the very institutions that many parents blame for not taking adequate care of their child.









