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Review

Suicide in Children: A Systematic Review

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Abstract

The objective of this study was to provide a review of studies on suicide in children aged 14 years and younger. Articles were identified through a systematic search of Scopus, MEDLINE, and PsychINFO. Key words were “children, suicide, psychological autopsy, and case-study.” Additional articles were identified through manual search of reference lists and discussion with colleagues. Fifteen published articles were identified, 8 psychological autopsy studies (PA), and 7 retrospective case-study series. Suicide incidence and gender asymmetry increases with age. Hanging is the most frequent method. Lower rates of psychopathology are evident among child suicides compared to adolescents. Previous suicide attempts were an important risk factor. Children were less likely to consume alcohol prior to suicide. Parent–child conflicts were the most common precipitant.

Keywords:

case series child psychological autopsy suicide

Additional information

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Related Research Data

Firearm Availability and Unintentional Firearm Deaths, Suicide, and Homicide among 5–14 Year Olds

Source: Journal of Trauma and Acute Care Surgery

Suicide in young people under 15 years: Problems of classification

Source: Nordic Journal of Psychiatry

Psychiatric Diagnosis in Child and Adolescent Suicide

Source: Archives of General Psychiatry

Limited evidence that bullying behaviour in children may be linked to later suicidal behaviour

Source: Evidence-Based Mental Health

Psychodynamic and family aspects of youth suicide

Source: Unknown Repository

Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses: The PRISMA Statement

Source: PLoS Medicine

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Journal of Clinical Child & Adolescent Psychology

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