

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

Studies

[Exploring Van Gogh Syndrome: A Case Report on Schizoaffective Disorder and Self-Harm](#)

Intentional self-harm, often referred to as DSH, is a strong predictor of suicide risk in schizophrenia. The tragic demise of Vincent Van Gogh, who passed away on July 29, 1890, at the age of 37, following a suicide attempt involving a firearm, a year after the notorious incident of self-inflicted ear mutilation, stands as a poignant illustration of how individuals with a history of MSM are at a heightened risk for suicide. This underscores the pressing need for clinicians to possess accurate knowledge of the risk factors associated with DSH among individuals with schizophrenia. This knowledge is crucial for identifying those at elevated risk and, whenever feasible, implementing appropriate strategies to reduce harm. Patients with schizophrenia exhibiting these risk factors necessitate vigilant follow-up and monitoring, along with the treatment of any concurrent conditions, such as depression or substance abuse. Furthermore, there is a need for increased research efforts aimed at identifying the specific risk factors for DSH in individuals with psychotic disorders and establishing the most effective measures to prevent such outcomes.

["Suicide Risk Among Physicians in the USA: A Systematic Narrative Review of Incidence, Risk Factors, and Prevention Strategies"](#)

This systematic review highlights the pressing issue of physician suicide, particularly among female physicians, who face increased risk due to increased burnout, work-related stress, and mental health challenges. The findings emphasize the necessity of gender-specific suicide prevention programs, improved access to mental health support, and workplace policies that mitigate occupational stressors. While significant progress has been made in identifying risk factors, further research is needed to explore intersectional influences such as race, socioeconomic status, and medical specialty. Addressing these disparities through institutional and policy-level interventions is crucial in fostering a healthier and more supportive work environment for physicians.

[Synchronous remote-based interventions for suicidal behaviour prevention: a systematic review and meta-analyses of clinical trials](#)

Synchronous remote-based interventions demonstrate a potential benefit in preventing suicide attempts and deaths by suicide and may serve as an adjunct to usual treatment; however, the effect on suicidal ideation appears limited. The observed heterogeneity warrants caution when interpreting these findings. Future research should prioritise methodological enhancements to improve the quality and consistency of evidence, as well as investigate the mediating processes underlying their effectiveness in reducing suicidal behaviour.

[Genes, brains and self-harm: New study links adolescent risk to biology and disadvantage](#)

Self-harm is common among adolescents and a strong predictor of suicide risk. A major new cohort study in the British Journal of Psychiatry explores how genetic risk and brain differences might explain who's most at risk, and why.

Information (Mersey Care staff)

[Important update on Suicide Safety Assessment Training](#)

NHS England have published new guidelines introducing a significant shift in how the needs of service users and patients are to be assessed. The current training provided by the Trust will be revised to align with the new safety assessment approach. If you have previously completed ERISK training or have assessed service users in your role, please help us to gather feedback this November in a Microsoft Teams session.

News

[More than a million people every week show suicidal intent when chatting with ChatGPT, OpenAI estimates](#)

More than a million ChatGPT users each week send messages that include "explicit indicators of potential suicidal planning or intent", according to a blogpost published by OpenAI on Monday. The finding, part of an update on how the chatbot handles sensitive conversations, is one of the most direct statements from the artificial intelligence giant on the scale of how AI can exacerbate mental health issues.

[Suicide rates among young people in England rose 50% in 10 years, figures show](#)

Suicide numbers among children and young people in England have increased by 50% in the last decade, figures show. The [Office for National Statistics](#) analysed data covering almost 12 million children and young people aged between 15 and 25 from 2011-12 to 2021-22. There were 4,315 suicides across the whole period. A total of 440 young people killed themselves in 2021-22, up 47% from the 300 such deaths in 2011-22. The number of suicides per 100,000 children and young people was up 54% over the same period.

[Bereaved families call for inquiry into UK failure to act on pro-suicide forum](#)

Bereaved families and survivors of a pro-suicide forum have called for a public inquiry into the government's failure to prevent harm linked to the online platform. The calls came as a report found that coroners had raised concerns regarding suicide forums at least 65 times to three government departments since 2019. They also highlighted that a substance promoted as a suicide method on such platforms has been linked to at least 133 deaths in the UK, with the youngest known victim just 13 years old.

[NHS trust pleads guilty after teenage girl absconded from 24-hour care and killed herself](#)

An NHS trust has pleaded guilty to failures over the avoidable death of a teenage girl who killed herself after absconding from 24-hour supervision under its care.

[Hospital neglect contributed to vulnerable woman's death, coroner says](#)

A coroner has concluded that some of the care Cerys Lupton-Jones was given at Park House, which was run by the Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust, was a "shambles".

