A Current Perspective of Suicide and Attempted Suicide

Abstract

Suicide and suicide attempts are a major cause of death and morbidity worldwide. Suicide is generally a complication of a psychiatric disorder, but it requires additional risk factors because most psychiatric patients never attempt suicide. This review includes a hypothesized stress-diathesis model, which has implications for detection of high-risk patients and treatment interventions, and discusses promising treatment approaches that have been recently identified.
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Current treatment recommendations for acute worsening of suicidal ideation are primarily environmental and include inpatient hospital admission and close observation. Despite these core clinical principles, there is a concerning lack of available medical interventions with evidence to support a specific therapeutic effect on suicidal ideation or behavior. Some of the scarcity of the literature is due to the complexity of the phenomenon of suicide and to the ethical dilemmas inherent in clinical study design that impose limitations on the feasibility of suicide research. Disclosures 9. Mann JJ. A current perspective of suicide and attempted suicide. Annals of Internal Medicine, 136, 302–311. Murphy, S.L., Xu, J. & Kochanek, K.D. (2012). Psychiatric morbidity, violent crime and suicide among children and adolescents exposed to parent death. Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, 49, 514–523. Recommend this journal.