

PH17: Hospital Healthcare Workers Who Ideated, Planned and Attempted Suicide: Risk Factors and Attitude Towards Suicide

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: This study was conducted to determine the risk factors and attitude towards suicide among healthcare workers with suicidal ideation, planning and attempt in a public hospital in Malaysia. **Methods:** Nurses, assistant medical officers and hospital attendants were randomly sampled, while doctors were universally sampled from continuous medical education workshops from seven major hospital departments. A questionnaire consisting of demographics, personal and family lifetime suicidality, the Attitudes Towards Suicide questionnaire, MBI and DASS-21 was self-administered. **Results:** Of the 368 participants, most were nurses (41.0%), Malay (84.8%), female (68.8%), and married (69.8%). Risk factors for suicidal ideation were being a doctor (OR = 13.039, p = 0.003), a nurse (OR = 7.507, p = 0.016), an assistant medical officer (OR = 9.128, p = 0.024), having family suicide history (OR = 3.396, p = 0.046), being male (OR = 2.319, p = 0.047), stressed (OR = 1.117, p = 0.022) and emotionally exhausted (OR = 1.055, p = 0.018). For suicide planning and attempt, the risk factors were being emotionally exhausted (OR = 1.087, p = 0.015 for planning; OR = 1.186, p = 0.006 for attempt). Those with high acceptability of suicide were more prone to suicidal ideation (OR = 1.199; p < 0.001) and planning (OR = 1.220; p = 0.003). **Conclusion:** The health care system needs to urgently address professional and personal factors that lead to suicidality among healthcare workers.

KEY WORDS:

Suicidal ideation, suicide plan, suicide attempt, healthcare worker, attitude toward suicide

PH18: The Test of Visual-Perceptual Skills (Non-Motor)-Revised (TVPS-R) Performance among Sample of Year-2 Students in Klang Valley

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: Vision plays an important role in the early stage of a child's visual-cognitive development. Children with visual-perceptual function deficits usually are associated with difficulty in learning. One of the most commonly-used visual-perceptual skills test is the Test of Visual-Perceptual Skills (Non-Motor)-Revised (TVPS-R). **Methods:** This study was conducted to determine the normative data of TVPS-R test for a sample of Year-2 students in Klang Valley to compare the data with the normative data from US and finally to determine the relationship between visual-perceptual skills and reading performance. **Results:** Visual-perceptual functions of 202 Year-2 students from two primary schools in Klang Valley were tested. Raw scores of TVPS-R were then converted into standard scores. Reading performance was determined by measuring the reading speed using a Malay Language Related Reading Text for grade 1. Results showed that the mean standard scored obtained for visual discrimination, visual memory, visual spatial-relationships, visual form constancy, visual-sequential memory, visual figure ground and visual closure subtests were 109.02±13.32, 110.22±11.74, 115.34±10.57, 107.83±12.54, 116.34±11.03, 113.31±10.90 and 112.58±11.62 respectively. The results indicated that the normative data in this study was significantly higher (p<0.05) than that of Gardner for all the subtests. There was also a positive correlation between all visual perceptual skills subtests with reading performance except for visual closure. **Conclusion:** In conclusion, the performance in TVPS-R of a sample of children in the Klang Valley, Malaysia was significantly better than the children in the US. This result suggested that it was necessary to develop an individual population-based normative data of TVPS-R.

KEY WORDS:

Visual-perceptual skills, TVPS-R, reading performance, normative, children