【 課題番号 1-2 】

Innovative Research Program on Suicide Countermeasures in FY2021: Report on Commissioned

Research Results

Field 1: Establishing evidence around suicide countermeasures

Topic number: 1-2

Research topic:

Study on the Current Situation of Suicide in Japan Based on DPC data

Principal Researcher:

Shinya Matsuda

Professor, Department of Preventive Medicine and Community Health, School of Medicine, University of

Occupational and Environmental Health, Japan

Summary:

The author analyzed the current situation of suicide in Japan using DPC data from 2016 to 2018. The result

shows: 1. the coexistence of mental illness has a significantly lower mortality rate, 2. there're higher mortality

rates for other age groups compared to those under the age of 20, 3. Women have a lower mortality rate than

men, and mental illness as comorbidity. 4. Having a psychiatric doctor reduces the probability of death, 5.

contrasting wrist self-injury, the other method such as hanging, jumping/jumping in front of a train, poisoning,

and self-injury caused by a knife has a high death probability, and 6. there are hospitalizations due to self-

injury/suicide attempts on Monday and Tuesday, whereas the mortality rate was high from Friday to Sunday,

although it was high at the beginning of the week. Of these, the coexistence of mental illness significantly

reduces the probability of death, which may have been led by psychiatric consultations that possibly suppress

fatal self-harm and suicide attempts and that prevent overdose with a high mortality rate, past suicide history

has been pointed out as one of the risk factors for death in suicide attempters. Therefore, an appropriate response

by a psychiatrist at the time of a suicide attempt is important for subsequent suicide prevention in surviving

cases. However, in this analysis, only 0.5% of patients were eligible for psychiatric liaison regardless of the

1

coexistence of mental illness. The placement of psychiatrists in acute care hospitals needs to be considered for the future.