

Suicide Policy Research is Being Reconstituted as a Journal Dedicated to Advancing Suicide Prevention Measures

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On behalf of the editorial board, I am pleased to announce that *Suicide Policy Research* is being relaunched after a pause of four years.

Global peer-reviewed journals on suicidology include the “Archives of Suicide Research,” edited by the International Academy of Suicide Research (IASR) and published by Taylor & Francis, and “Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior,” published by Wiley. These journals are highly regarded for the publishing studies on suicide research. They receive submissions from diverse academic disciplines related to suicide and have editorial boards composed of university researchers.

In contrast, *Suicide Policy Research* is an academic journal edited and published by the Japan Suicide Countermeasures Promotion Center (JSCP). The JSCP does its own research and verification work to promote suicide countermeasures in Japan. I participate in the editorial board as a statistician and have supported data analysis that contributes to Evidence-Based Policy Making (EBPM) for suicide countermeasures.

This journal aims to deepen suicidology and improve suicide countermeasures. Suicide policies and measures have been promoted within each country’s social system as practical knowledge in the field of suicide preventive activities by governments, medical institutions, welfare institutions, educational institutions, and corporations engaged in community-based mutual

aid activities. The medical health sciences and sociology, public administration, law, and religious studies related to suicidology may have supported these activities.

I believe the ideal form of suicide policy management organically combines the solid PDCA cycle regarding field practice and the academic knowledge necessary for each phase of the PDCA cycle. Effective suicide policy management works toward improving the quality of a society that does not drive its people to suicide.

Edited by the JSCP editorial board and accessible to all, the mission of *Suicide Policy Research* is to support suicide prevention activities by focusing on evaluating the usefulness of reported activities and how national policies contribute to suicide management, rather than novelty of their academic contributions to suicidology.

Submitted papers should offer valuable insights into suicide prevention activities, highlighting the successes and failures of suicide prevention measures employed by different countries, with clear articulations of the causes of the failures and appropriate remedial measures. This would demonstrate the PDCA cycle’s effectiveness in suicide prevention management.

The journal was temporarily suspended during the restructuring of the editorial board and the reorganization of its editorial policies as an academic journal. As a member of the new editorial

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board, I am very pleased to see its reissuance as a new journal.

While we expect many submissions on Japanese cases in initial stages, the editorial board welcomes

contributions from around the world, sharing valuable information on effective suicide management, the challenges they face, and the issues and their solutions in current practice.