Special Issue

Intrusive Thoughts and Mental Imagery in Suicidality: Uncovering Transdiagnostic Mechanisms in Mental Disorders

Message from the Guest Editors

This Special Issue seeks to advance our understanding of these phenomena by exploring their underlying cognitive, emotional, and neurobiological processes. By examining these mechanisms, we aim to clarify how intrusive suicidal thoughts—both verbal and imagerybased—contribute to the onset, maintenance, and escalation of suicidality across different clinical populations. We welcome empirical studies, theoretical reviews, and clinical perspectives that address topics including, but not limited to, the following:

- The cognitive, affective, and neurobiological mechanisms linking intrusive thoughts and mental imagery to suicidality;
- Transdiagnostic frameworks that conceptualize intrusive cognitions and imagery as shared factors across mental disorders;
- Experimental and longitudinal studies investigating the impact of intrusive thoughts and mental imagery on suicide risk;
- Novel intervention strategies targeting intrusive thoughts and mental imagery to mitigate suicide risk;
- Advances in the measurement and assessment of suicide-related mental imagery and intrusive cognitions.

Guest Editors

Dr. Jaël S. van Bentum Department of Clinical Psychology, Utrecht University, 3584 CS

Utrecht, The Netherlands Dr. Sarah Brown

Department of Psychology, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL 32306, USA

Deadline for manuscript submissions

15 December 2025



Behavioral Sciences

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 2.5 CiteScore 3.1 Indexed in PubMed



mdpi.com/si/233583

Behavioral Sciences Editorial Office MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5 4052 Basel, Switzerland Tel: +41 61 683 77 34 behavsci@mdpi.com

mdpi.com/journal/ behavsci





Behavioral Sciences

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 2.5 CiteScore 3.1 Indexed in PubMed



behavsci



Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Jerrell Cassady Department of Educational Psychology, Ball State University, Muncie, IN 47306, USA

Author Benefits

High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, SSCI (Web of Science), PubMed, PMC, PsycInfo, and other databases.

Journal Rank:

JCR - Q2 (Psychology, Multidisciplinary) / CiteScore - Q2 (Development)

Rapid Publication:

manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 29.6 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 3.4 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the first half of 2025).

