

Special Issue

Advances in Responses of Community Members to Individuals at Risk of Suicide

Message from the Guest Editors

The reactions of community members to someone who is experiencing distress can have a major influence on mental health outcomes as well as future formal and informal help-seeking. This explains the increase in suicide prevention programming that concentrates on training community members to intervene with peers in distress. Yet, training approaches may lead to unsatisfactory, unsustainable, and/or inequitable change in community members' knowledge and behavior to support peers in distress. Innovative training approaches are certainly necessary to address these outstanding issues. Relatedly, the informal network of help-giving that exists in communities needs to be better understood because professional help-seeking may not be the best solution for everyone. This Special Issue is focused on generating new knowledge to identify: how people communicate about suicide; how people react to fellow community members experiencing emotional distress; personal, relationship, community, and environmental factors that help shape suicidal communications and community members' reactions; intervention/prevention programs that seek to change community members' reactions.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Addressing the environmental and public health challenges requires engagement and collaboration among clinicians and public health researchers. Scientific discoveries and advances in this research field play a critical role in providing a rational basis for informed decision-making toward control and prevention of human diseases, especially the illnesses that are induced from environmental exposure to health hazards.

IJERPH provides a forum for discussion of discoveries and knowledge in these multidisciplinary fields. Please consider publishing your research in this high quality peer-reviewed journal.

Editor-in-Chief

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