Special Issue

The Relationship between Work, Mental Health and Suicide Prevention: Recent Advances and Perspectives

Message from the Guest Editors

Mental health is now a leading cause of disability worldwide. This is particularly observed in the working age population, and has catalysed interest among policy makers, practitioners, and researchers in the workplace, who see the workplace as a setting in which to address poor mental health and related outcomes such as suicidality. Embedding mental health and suicide prevention programs within workplace settings can help identify those at risk and provide insight into modifiable work-related risk factors. Workplace programs can also play a role in supporting employees' knowledge and skills in mental health literacy, as well as rehabilitating workers back into work (when appropriate). However, there are still several gaps in our knowledge regarding the relationship between work and mental health/suicidal outcomes, and about the effectiveness of workplace prevention activities. These gaps in our knowledge are particularly prominent in specific occupational and demographic groups. In this issue, we are particularly interested in etiological and interventional work in male-dominated settings, such as the construction and mining industries.

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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.

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