

Advanced Practice Nurses Attitudes to Suicide: Examining Qualitative Data

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Learning Objectives:

- National Data on Suicide
- Findings from examining 2 groups of APRNs
- Free text comments about suicide or Qualitative Data
- Raise Awareness
- Foster changes in practice, education, and all populations
- Resources

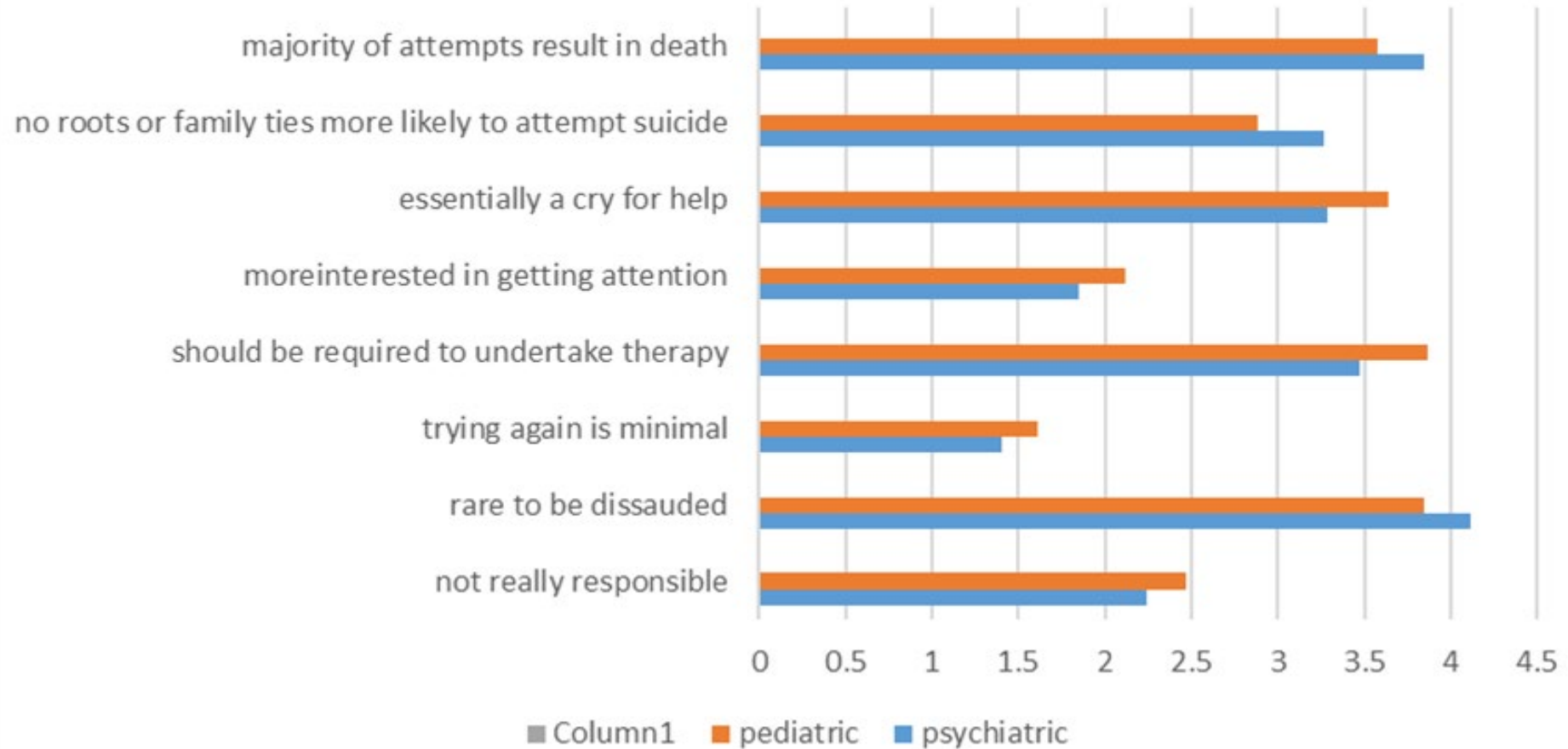
Purpose:

- APRNs are in a unique position to address suicide in 15-24-year old population by implementing a prevention oriented system (ANA, 2014; Heise, York, & Thatcher, 2016).
- Suicide is the tenth leading cause of death nationally, deaths by suicide ↑3.2% from 2014-2015 (Heron, 2017).
- 2nd leading cause of death for 15-24-year olds in the year 2015 (Heron, 2017).
- APRNs are a subset of the largest group of healthcare providers (Neville & Roan, 2013; Kroning, 2016).
- APRNs should conduct assessments at each contact

Design-descriptive correlational study

- Demographic Information
- Suicide Opinion Questionnaire
- **Qualitative Data**
- Variables used for quantitative measurement-
Attitudes to suicide as measured by Suicide Opinion
Questionnaire Score, Gender, Years of clinical work experience

Significant Differences in Attitudes towards Suicide



107 comments from 190 participants

42 comments from Psych APRNs

65 comments from Ped APRNs

Personal, powerful messages



- Every suicide attempt has a story
- In my career...IT IS AN EPIDEMIC
- My nephew committed suicide
- My younger brother
- Not enough attention on the grieving process for a therapist
- I interrupted the suicide attempt of friend
- I am a survivor

themes among Ped APRNs

Stigma

Pain

Attention

Comments:

language of the survey needs to be updated

Examining the comments raises awareness about our practice and begins meaningful discussions.



Looking forward

- Include material in basic nursing education
- Make the topic a mandatory education piece for licensing
- Ask at each encounter with each patient (5th vital sign)-TPR BP, SI
- Look at prevention of brain diseases associated with suicide

Resources

Suicide Prevention Resource Center

The Suicide Prevention Resource Center (SPRC) is a national federally supported resource center devoted to advancing the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention. There are many resources available including a lifeline phone hotline (1-800-273-8255), prevention, a weekly newsletter (*Weekly Spark*), the free app called the Virtual Hope Box, and various trainings for your setting.

<http://www.sprc.org/>

American Foundation for Suicide Prevention

The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) is an organization that gives those affected by suicide a nationwide community with resources based on research, education and advocacy to take action.

<https://afsp.org/>

Suicide Safe

Suicide safe is SAMHSA's free suicide prevention app for mobile devices assists providers with suicide prevention strategies.

<https://store.samhsa.gov/apps/suicidesafe/>



**American
Foundation
for Suicide
Prevention**



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Thank you

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