Differences In Pediatric And Adult Methods Of Suicide And Self-inflicted Injury At A Rural Level 1 Pediatric Trauma Center

Jacob Hartman-Kenzler, M.S.
PI: Shawn Safford, M.D.
Disclosures

• No disclosures
Background

- Suicide is the second leading cause of death in adolescents in the U.S. (10th for all ages)
- Suicidal ideation is highest in adolescents and young adults
- Limited difference in preventative measures between adults and pediatrics

Aim

• Identify differences between adult and pediatric methods of suicide and self-inflicted injury
Methods

Population

• Rural level 1 trauma center suicide and SII E-Codes (E950-959) from 2005-2018

Analysis

• Compared pediatric (<18yo) and adult populations using Chi-square analysis with a significance of p <0.05
Pediatric patients were significantly more likely than adults to intentionally injure themselves via hanging and jumping.
Conclusions

• Significant differences exist between adult and pediatric methods of suicide and SII
  • Hanging and jumping – primary difference

• These data, along with increasing incidence nationally, suggest pediatric SII may require different approaches to preventative strategies
Challenges and Future Work

• Small pediatric data set (n=37)
  • Rural population

• Plan to analyze larger (statewide) database

• Expand analysis with socioeconomic and demographic factors (Race, sex, geographic location, etc.)
Acknowledgements

• Carilion Clinic data analysis staff
• Carilion Clinic trauma staff
• Safford Lab
• There are significant differences between adult and pediatric methods of suicide and SII

• These data, along with increasing incidence nationally, suggest pediatric SII may require different approaches to prevention strategies