AISUCAP NEWSLETTER



September 2020

www.aisucap.com

MEET THE CORE TEAM (AISUCAP)



Ms. Rekha Chaubani President - Alscar

Dr. Jitendra Nagpal (Chairman)



Rekha Chauhan (President)



Ms Geeta Mehrotra (Deputy Secretary)

Aprajita Dixit (Organizational Secretary)



Dr. Jaishri Iyer (Editorial Team)



Ms. Meghna Gupta (Editorial Team)



Ms. Hemlata Shukla Suri (Editorial Team)

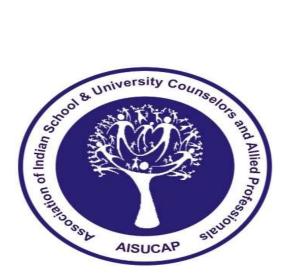


Ms. Aditi Jain
(Editorial Team)



Ms. Ankita Pareek
(Editorial Team)

Upcoming Events



AISUCAP VIRTUAL NATIONAL SUMMIT ON "PREVENTION AND PROMOTIVE MENTAL HEALTH CARE"



GUIDELINES FOR PAPER SUBMISSION:

An abstract of the proposed paper, not exceeding 300 words, with minimum 3 key words should be sent on members@aisucap.com

The paper must be formatted in MS Word, font size 12, Font style - Times New Roman, line spacing 1.5, not exceeding 3500 words.

A synopsis should be sent on or before 10th October 2020.

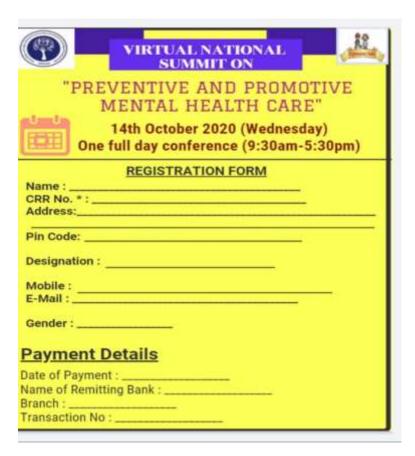
NOTE:Registration is mandatory for all selected papers for final compilation of presentation slot.

IMPORTANT DATES

Description	Last Date
Submission of Abstract	25/09/2020
Submission of Full Paper	10/10/2020
Last date of Registration	10/10/2020

TARGET DELEGATES

- · Mental Health Professionals.
- · Medical Professionals,
- · Special Educators,
- · SchoolCounselors,
- Physiotherapists,
- · Cross Disability Experts,
- · Clinical Psychologists,
- · Rehabilitation Psychologists,
- · Occupational Therapist,
- · Speech Therapists,
- · Rehabilitation
- · Practitioners.
- · Social Workers,
- Any other Category of RCI-CRR registered Professional

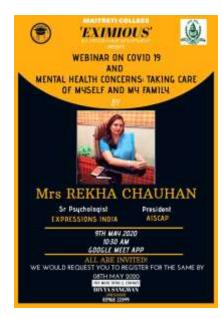


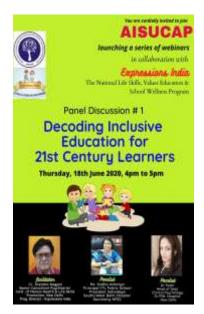
GLIMPSES OF PREVIOUS EVENTS:









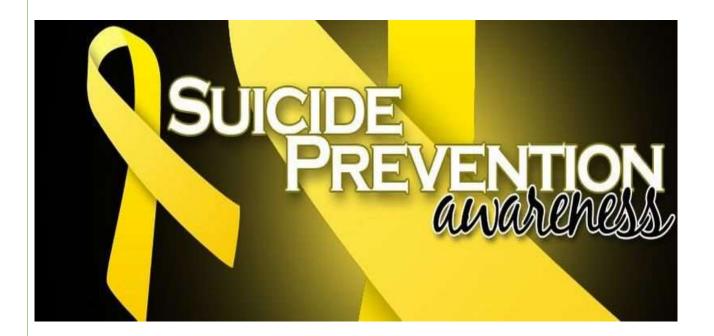








THEME OF THE MONTH- SUICIDE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION



SUB THEMES:

- 1. Introduction- Ms. Meghna Gupta
- 2. Importance of Suicide Awareness and Prevention-Ms. Aditi Jain
 - 3. Myths and Facts related to Suicide- Ms. Hemlata Shukla Suri
 - 4. Warning signs, Risk and Protective Factors- Ms. Ankita Pareek
 - 5. How to Help Someone who is Suicidal? Ms. Meghna Gupta

SUICIDE HELPLINE NUMBERS

- 1. iCall: +91 9152987821 (Mon-Sat, 8 AM to 10 PM), Languages: English, Hindi
- 2. Sumaitri: +91 011 23389090 (Mon-Fri, 2 PM to 10 PM and Sat-Sun, 10 AM to 10 PM), New Delhi
- 3. Snehi: +91 011 65978181 (Daily, 2 PM to 6 PM, New Delhi)
- 4. Sanjeevani: 011 24311918, 011 24318883 (Mon-Fri, 10 AM to 5.30 PM); 26862222, 26864488, 40769002 (Mon-Sat, 10 AM to 5.30 PM), New Delhi
- 5. Fortis Stress Helpline: +91 8376804102 (24*7), New Delhi

INTRODUCTION

BY MEGHNA GUPTA



An estimated one million people die by suicide per year or about one person in every 10,000 which means a death every 40 seconds. More people die from suicide than from murder and war

In India, in the last two decades, the suicide rate has increased from 7.9 to 10.3 per 100,000. Also, it has the highest rate of suicides among people in the age group of 15 to 29 years. In addition, WHO states that India does not have an adequate suicide prevention policy in place.

There are lack of resources, lack of data and research, restricting us to fight suicide.

These statistics are very alarming and many people are struggling silently and battling suicidal ideation on a daily basis. Many more think of self-harm. In fact, such ideation and behavior is actually very common. Suicide threats and attempts are less common, but much more frequent than most people realize. Suicide is the most common psychiatric emergency and a leading cause of death in India and around the world.

Many people say that it happened "out of the blue" but it is a fact that a decision like suicide is not impulsive but a person who eventually attempts suicide goes through a lot of stages and it finally results from a downward spiral when people around fail to recognize the warning signs and clues. These signs may manifest themselves in the form of direct verbal clues such as "I am going to commit suicide", "If (such and such) does not happen, I will kill myself" or indirect verbal clues such as "I just want out", "I won't be around much longer". Many changes in the behavior may also be observed such as sudden interest or disinterest in religion, unexplained anger or irritability, putting personal affairs in order. Hence, people who are contemplating suicide try to communicate in a lot of ways and want somebody to recognize what they are trying to say and reach out.

Some of the common causes of suicide include:

- 1. Mental Illness (Depression. Anxiety, Schizophrenia, Bipolar Disorder)
- 2. Trauma (PTSD, Physical Abuse, Sexual Abuse, War)
- 3. Bullying
- 4. Personality Disorders

IMPORTANCE OF SUICIDE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION

By ADITI JAIN



Suicide Awareness and Prevention

Suicide is a devastating problem that affects families and friends in very profound ways. In most cases, people say that they did not know that the person who died by suicide was depressed or even thinking about harming themselves. This is why recognizing the warning sign of suicide is so important for prevention. When people feel hopeless, they often think of suicide as a way to end the pain they're feeling. It is important that others pay close attention to the ones they know and love so they can help whenever they're concerned about a possible suicide attempt.

The stigma attached to suicide has lessened in recent years, owing to more people and families starting to speak out. Don't be afraid to ask someone directly if they're considering ending their own lives. Being conscious and aware that someone is a suicide risk is the first step to helping them to get the assistance they need before it is too late, While not all suicides can be prevented, if you know someone who may be suicidal, there are some things you can do to help.

Empowering your community

- 1. Encourage those in distress to tell their own story in their way and at their pace.
- 2. By engaging in active listening and reaching out to those who are vulnerable in the community
- 3. Together we can build resilient and strong communities.

Connect, Communicate, Care at the heart of Suicide Prevention.

MYTHS AND FACTS RELATED TO SUICIDE

BY HEMLATA SHUKLA SURI

Myths

about suicide

that we should no longer believe



MYTHS

- 1. Someone who is suicidal will always remain suicidal.
- 2. Talking about suicide or asking suicide questions directly may plant ideas of suicide into a person's mind or encourage such behaviour.
- 3. Most suicides are sudden and happen without any warning. People who may be thinking of suicide look and act just fine before attempting it.
- 4. Those who commit suicide are determined to die.

FACTS

- 1. The suicidal thoughts and heightened risk are often short lived and situation specific. At times the suicidal thoughts might revisit but they are transitory in nature and surely an individual with suicidal thoughts and attempt can live a long life.
- 2. If we openly address and speak about suicide, it might offer an opportunity to the person with suicidal intent to communicate and thereby, the person may reach out.
- 3. Those who are suicidal often display a range of clues which may be verbal or behavioral.
- 4. If we see it is completely contradictory as the suicidal people are often inconclusive or equivocal about living or dying.

WARNING SIGNS, RISK AND PROTECTIVE FACTORS

BY ANKITA PAREEK

WARNING SIGNS

Direct Verbal Clues

"I have decided to kill myself"

"I wish I were dead"

Indirect Verbal Clues

"I am tired of life, I just can't go on"

"My family would be better off without me"

"Who cares if I am dead

RISK FACTORS

- 1. A prior suicide attempt(s) is the biggest risk factor
- 2. Abuse of any kind
- 3. Misuse and abuse of alcohol or other drugs
- 4. Mental disorders, particularly depression and other mood disorders
- **5.** Access to lethal means
- 6. Knowing someone who died by suicide, particularly a family member
- **7.** Social Isolation
- **8.** Chronic disease and disability
- **9.** Lack of access to behavioral health care
- **10.** Belonging to marginalised social groups

BEHAVIOURAL CLUES

- Any previous suicide attempt
- 2. Stockpiling pills
- **3.** Co-occurring depression, moodiness, hopelessness
- Putting personal affairs in order
- **5.** Giving away prized possessions
- **6.** Sudden interest or disinterest in religion
- Drug or alcohol abuse, or relapse after a period of recovery
- **8.** Unexplained anger, aggression, irritability

PROTECTIVE FACTORS

- 1. Social connections to friends and family
- 2. Life skills and building emotional resilience
- Self-esteem and a sense of purpose or meaning in life
- **4.** Cultural, religious, or personal beliefs that discourage suicide

EXTENDING SUPPORT TO SOMEONE WHO IS SUICIDAL BY MEGHNA GUPTA



Many people are hesitant to talk about suicide and become clueless when someone close to them conveys that he/she may be thinking about suicide. This is because of widespread myths surrounding suicide. Many people think that talking about suicide is a bad idea as it may encourage such behavior but the reality is that it actually opens a window for someone silently suffering to reach out. You may help someone in a variety of ways, providing them with a safe place to express their feelings is absolutely necessary and active listening is the key.

Being a Certified Suicide Prevention Gatekeeper in the Q-P-R (Question-Persuade-Refer) Model, I would like to pen down how we can act as a reliable bridge between those thinking about suicide and the appropriate sources of help. The first step when a person reaches out is to question; the questions may be asked directly or indirectly. The direct approach involves asking questions like, "Do you feel like ending your life" or simply, "Are you thinking about suicide". Many people believe that asking direct questions surrounding suicide may plant suicidal ideas in someone's mind which is not actually true as the direct approach provides a non-judgmental environment where the person can talk freely about what he or she is going through. The indirect approach involves asking questions like, "Do all the things that you are going through make you feel like you want to give up?" Remember that how you ask the question is as important as what you ask. Asking questions such as, "You would not do anything stupid, would you" is a big NO as it invalidates the experience of the person and may lead them to withdraw reaching out. The next step is to persuade the person to stay alive and to get help. Listening to the problem and giving the person your full attention and offering hope in any form may do wonders. Asking questions like "Will you go with me to get help" may persuade the person to think about getting help. The last step is to refer the person to someone who can help. Many people believe that giving referral information is enough but suicidal people often believe that they cannot be helped so you may have to do more. Taking the person directly to someone who can help is the best way. The next best referral is getting a commitment in good faith from them to accept help and making the necessary arrangements for getting it. Any willingness to accept help now or any point in future is a good outcome.

LET'S NOT STIGMATIZE SUICIDE, LET'S CREATE AWARENESS.
