

# PH17: Hospital Healthcare Workers Who Ideated, Planned and Attempted Suicide: Risk Factors and Attitude Towards Suicide

Siau CS<sup>1</sup>, Wee LH<sup>1</sup>, Ibrahim N<sup>1</sup>, Visvalingam U<sup>2</sup>, Yeap L<sup>3</sup>, Yeoh SH<sup>4</sup>, Wahab S<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Faculty of Health Sciences, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, <sup>2</sup>Hospital Putrajaya, Ministry of Health Malaysia, <sup>3</sup>Stat Sdn Bhd, <sup>4</sup>Faculty of Medicine, Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman, <sup>5</sup>UKM Medical Centre

## ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** This study was conducted to determine the risk factors and attitude towards suicide among healthcare workers with suicidal ideation, planning and attempt in a public hospital in Malaysia. **Methods:** Nurses, assistant medical officers and hospital attendants were randomly sampled, while doctors were universally sampled from continuous medical education workshops from seven major hospital departments. A questionnaire consisting of demographics, personal and family lifetime suicidality, the Attitudes Towards Suicide questionnaire, MBI and DASS-21 was self-administered. **Results:** Of the 368 participants, most were nurses (41.0%), Malay (84.8%), female (68.8%), and married (69.8%). Risk factors for suicidal ideation were being a doctor (OR = 13.039,  $p = 0.003$ ), a nurse (OR = 7.507,  $p = 0.016$ ), an assistant medical officer (OR = 9.128,  $p = 0.024$ ), having family suicide history (OR = 3.396,  $p = 0.046$ ), being male (OR = 2.319,  $p = 0.047$ ), stressed (OR = 1.117,  $p = 0.022$ ) and emotionally exhausted (OR = 1.055,  $p = 0.018$ ). For suicide planning and attempt, the risk factors were being emotionally exhausted (OR = 1.087,  $p = 0.015$  for planning; OR = 1.186,  $p = 0.006$  for attempt). Those with high acceptability of suicide were more prone to suicidal ideation (OR = 1.199;  $p < 0.001$ ) and planning (OR = 1.220;  $p = 0.003$ ). **Conclusion:** The health care system needs to urgently address professional and personal factors that lead to suicidality among healthcare workers.

## KEY WORDS:

*Suicidal ideation, suicide plan, suicide attempt, healthcare worker, attitude toward suicide*

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# PH18: The Test of Visual-Perceptual Skills (Non-Motor)-Revised (TVPS-R) Performance among Sample of Year-2 Students in Klang Valley

Narayanasamy S

Optometry and Vision Sciences Programme, School of Healthcare Sciences, Faculty of Health Sciences, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia

## ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** Vision plays an important role in the early stage of a child's visual-cognitive development. Children with visual-perceptual function deficits usually are associated with difficulty in learning. One of the most commonly-used visual-perceptual skills test is the Test of Visual-Perceptual Skills (Non-Motor)-Revised (TVPS-R). **Methods:** This study was conducted to determine the normative data of TVPS-R test for a sample of Year-2 students in Klang Valley to compare the data with the normative data from US and finally to determine the relationship between visual-perceptual skills and reading performance. **Results:** Visual-perceptual functions of 202 Year-2 students from two primary schools in Klang Valley were tested. Raw scores of TVPS-R were then converted into standard scores. Reading performance was determined by measuring the reading speed using a Malay Language Related Reading Text for grade 1. Results showed that the mean standard scored obtained for visual discrimination, visual memory, visual spatial-relationships, visual form constancy, visual-sequential memory, visual figure ground and visual closure subtests were  $109.02 \pm 13.32$ ,  $110.22 \pm 11.74$ ,  $115.34 \pm 10.57$ ,  $107.83 \pm 12.54$ ,  $116.34 \pm 11.03$ ,  $113.31 \pm 10.90$  and  $112.58 \pm 11.62$  respectively. The results indicated that the normative data in this study was significantly higher ( $p < 0.05$ ) than that of Gardner for all the subtests. There was also a positive correlation between all visual perceptual skills subtests with reading performance except for visual closure. **Conclusion:** In conclusion, the performance in TVPS-R of a sample of children in the Klang Valley, Malaysia was significantly better than the children in the US. This result suggested that it was necessary to develop an individual population-based normative data of TVPS-R.

## KEY WORDS:

*Visual-perceptual skills, TVPS-R, reading performance, normative, children*