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What types of suicide-focused group therapy are available for adolescents? A scoping review

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ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Support - None.

Review Stage at time of this submission - Preliminary searches.

Conflicts of interest - None declared.

INPLASY registration number: INPLASY202470028

Amendments - This protocol was registered with the International Platform of Registered Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis Protocols (INPLASY) on 09 July 2024 and was last updated on 09 July 2024.

INTRODUCTION

Review question / Objective What types of suicide-focused group therapy are available for adolescents and youth? What are the key therapeutic ingredients of such interventions? What are the potential risks and barriers of such interventions? What is the potential efficacy of such interventions?

Background Suicide is a leading cause of death among adolescents world wide. Individual psychotherapy has been proven to be effective in suicide prevention, however, there is a shortage of mental health services. Therefore, group therapy may provide a cost-effective prevention strategy, especially among adolescents for whom peers are an important resource of support and modeling. In order to review the existing initiatives that have developed and tested suicide-focused group therapy interventions among adolescents we conduct the current review. This is the first review to focus on this topic for adolescents, there have

been two reviews conducted for group therapy among suicidal adults.

Rationale The study aimed to find and explore all the existing group therapies for suicidal youth, find out the common ingredients, the methods used for these treatments, the efficacy, the risks and barriers.

METHODS

Strategy of data synthesis After data extraction, thematic analysis will be conducted in order to explore the key themes within the papers and compare the finding between studies. Two researchers will independently extract data on the baseline of the main ingredients of the group therapy for suicidal adolescents.

Eligibility criteria Inclusion criteria: Studies that examined group interventions that included 3 participants or more, between the ages 10-25 and measured at least one indicator of suicide risk (e.g.

Suicidal ideation, suicidal behavior). Exclusion criteria: if the intervention did not include a group format, if no suicide measure was obtained.

Source of evidence screening and selection

The following databases will be screened – PubMed, Cochrane, CINAHL, PsycINFO, ERIC, Education Fulltext, Web of Science, Scopus, ProQuest Dissertation and Theses- in searching for the following terms: Suicid* and Group Thearpy, Group Intervention, Psychotherapy Group, Group counselling. Search results will be moved to Covidence in order to remove duplicates. The researchers will screen titles and abstracts to look for inclusion and exclusion criteria.

Data management Titles and abstracts will be independently screened by two researchers based on the inclusion and exclusion after removing duplicates using Covidence. In cases of disagreements an additional independent researcher will review the data to decide.

Reporting results / Analysis of the evidence Results will be described in words to present the extracted themes, and a table summarizing the reviewed studies will be displayed.

Presentation of the results A figure summarizing the themes and table summarizing the reviewed studies will be displayed.

Language restriction No.

Country(ies) involved Israel.

Keywords Suicide/group/therapy/adolescents.

Dissemination plans We intend to present the reviews findings in national and international conferences to mental health providers.

Contributions of each author

Author 1 - Chen Mike - Conduct the search, screen studies, extract data, analyze and synthesis of findings, prepare a draft of the manuscript, review comments.

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Author 2 - Joy Benatov - screen studies, extract data, analyze and synthesis of findings, review the manuscript, review comments.

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