

Variables included in the multivariable logistic regression for preparedness to help a person in a suicidal crisis

Included were survey variables identified as potentially impacting a pharmacist's preparedness to help a person in a suicidal crisis. Variables were selected based on an interim analysis (Canadian data only), other research, and our tacit knowledge.

Age

Sex

Country

Location

Years of patient care experience

Mental health crisis training

Length of time since mental health crisis training

Number of times interacting with a person at risk of suicide

Length of time since most recent interaction with someone at risk of suicide

Involved in the care of someone with a recent suicide attempt

Having a patient who died by suicide

Perceived barriers:

- lack of training
- lack of time
- lack of confidence
- patient was unknown to pharmacist
- concerns about breaching patient confidentiality
- worried about making the situation worse for the patient
- making patient uncomfortable
- concerns about liability
- lack of private space
- not knowing what to do
- lack of available tools and resources

Personal diagnosis of a mental illness

Someone close to the respondent lives with a mental illness

Someone close to the respondent died from suicide

Perceived preventability of suicide

Permissive attitudes about suicide

Experience assessing suicide risk (assessed thoughts, plans, intentions, and/or means)

Table 1: Characteristics of Australian and Canadian pharmacist respondents and their experiences with patients at risk of suicide

	Overall		Canada		Australia		p value
	396		235		161		
	N	%	N	%	N	%	
Age (M±SD)	38.6 ± 12.7		42.2 ± 12.2		33.3 ± 11.7		<0.0001
Years of community pharmacy experience (M±SD)	14.1 ± 12.4		17.0 ± 12.5		9.9 ± 11.1		<0.0001
Sex							
Female	276	69.7	167	71.1	109	67.7	
Male	119	30.1	68	28.9	51	31.7	0.4
Other	1	0.3	0	0.0	1	0.6	
Currently Practicing as a community pharmacist	343	86.6	195	83.0	148	91.9	0.01
Geographic location*							
Remote	6	1.5	2	0.9	4	2.5	
Rural	105	26.5	73	31.1	32	19.9	0.02
Urban	285	72.0	160	68.1	125	77.6	
Position in the pharmacy							
Pharmacist employee	235	59.3	150	63.8	85	52.8	
Pharmacist manager	92	23.2	53	22.6	39	24.2	0.03
Pharmacist owner	69	17.4	32	13.6	37	23.0	
Number of times you have interacted with a person at risk of suicide							
0 times	61	15.4	37	15.7	24	14.9	
1-2	159	40.2	88	37.4	71	44.1	
3-5	103	26.0	63	26.8	40	24.8	0.38
6-10	34	8.6	25	10.6	9	5.6	
>10	39	9.8	22	9.4	17	10.6	

* Geographic location was determined by the respondent and not defined in the survey. **The most prominent experience with a patient at risk of suicide was left to the interpretation of the respondent.

Table 2: Characteristics of community pharmacists most prominent experiences with a patient at risk of suicide*

	Overall		Canada		Australia		p value
	324		189		135		
	N	%	N	%	N	%	
How did your concern arise for the patient at risk of suicide?							
Patient directly indicated that they had thoughts of suicide	213	65.7	123	65.1	90	66.7	0.99
I directly inquired based on the clinical circumstances	44	13.6	26	13.8	18	13.3	
Another person informed me that the patient had thoughts of suicide	38	11.7	23	12.2	15	11.1	
Other	29	9.0	17	9.0	12	8.9	
Did you determine if the person:							
had thoughts of suicide?	244	75.3	142	75.1	102	75.6	1.00
had a plan for how they would do it?	130	40.1	77	40.7	53	39.3	0.94
intended to carry out their plan?	136	42.0	77	40.7	59	43.7	0.79
had access to the means to carry out their plan?	117	36.1	67	35.5	50	37.0	0.79
How was information gathered about thoughts, plans, and access to means?							
Asked	155	57.8	87	55.1	68	61.8	0.31
Volunteered	145	54.1	85	53.8	60	54.6	0.38
How did you feel about your involvement when the situation ended?							
Very uncomfortable	33	10.3	19	10.1	14	10.6	0.97
Uncomfortable	161	50.3	96	51.1	65	49.2	
Comfortable	111	34.7	65	34.6	46	34.8	
Very comfortable	15	4.7	8	4.3	7	5.3	
How satisfied were you with the management of the situation?							
Very dissatisfied	7	2.2	3	1.6	4	3.0	0.91
Dissatisfied	74	23.1	43	22.9	31	23.5	
Neutral	104	32.5	62	33.0	42	31.8	
Satisfied	113	35.3	68	36.2	45	34.1	
Very satisfied	22	6.9	12	6.4	10	7.6	

* When responding to the section focused on community pharmacists most prominent experiences with a patient at risk of suicide, the lead-in instructions to participants stated: "Thinking about the most prominent experience with a patient at risk of suicide, ..."

Table 3: Community pharmacists assessments of potential barriers that could interfere with supporting or caring for a patient at risk of suicide*

	Overall		Canada		Australia		p value
	371		217		154		
	N	%	N	%	N	%	
Lack of confidence							
Not a barrier	62	16.7	31	14.3	31	20.1	0.04
Small barrier	148	39.9	94	43.3	54	35.1	
Moderate barrier	106	28.6	67	30.9	39	25.3	
Significant barrier	55	14.8	25	11.5	30	19.5	
Lack of training							
Not a barrier	16	4.3	7	3.2	9	5.8	0.25
Small barrier	112	30.2	66	30.4	46	29.9	
Moderate barrier	133	35.8	85	39.2	48	31.2	
Significant barrier	110	29.6	59	27.2	51	33.1	
Lack of time							
Not a barrier	102	27.5	62	28.6	40	26.0	0.26
Small barrier	117	31.5	74	34.1	43	27.9	
Moderate barrier	92	24.8	52	24.0	40	26	
Significant barrier	60	16.2	29	13.4	31	20.1	
Lack of private space							
Not a barrier	127	34.2	87	40.1	40	26.0	0.001
Small barrier	128	34.5	77	35.5	51	33.1	
Moderate barrier	70	18.9	36	16.6	34	22.1	
Significant barrier	46	12.4	17	7.8	29	18.8	
Not knowing what to do							
Not a barrier	32	8.6	15	6.9	17	11	0.29
Small barrier	105	28.3	65	30	40	26	
Moderate barrier	134	36.1	83	38.2	51	33.1	
Significant barrier	100	27.0	54	24.9	46	29.9	
Lack of available tools and resources							
Not a barrier	27	7.3	12	5.5	15	9.7	0.48
Small barrier	105	28.3	63	29.0	42	27.3	
Moderate barrier	148	39.9	89	41.0	59	38.3	
Significant barrier	91	24.5	53	24.4	38	24.7	

* When completing the assessment of barriers section, instructions to participants stated: "Score the following potential barriers that could prevent you from supporting or caring for a patient who you perceive to be at risk of suicide." Response options for each potential barrier were specifically described as:

1. Is in no way a barrier; it would not affect my willingness or abilities
2. Is a small barrier; it is unlikely to affect my willingness or abilities
3. Is a moderate barrier; it could diminish my willingness or abilities
4. Is a significant barrier; it would affect my willingness or abilities