*Preventing Suicide Attempts & Deaths: Treatment Strategies & Outcomes with Suicidal Youths*

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Suicide is the second leading cause of death among adolescents in the United States, responsible for more deaths than any single medical illness in youths. Despite strong research and clinical/public health efforts, and reductions in other sources of mortality, age-adjusted suicide death rates increased 24% from 1999 through 2014, suicide death-rates exceeded those from motor vehicle accidents among youths ages 10-14, and we still lack treatments with replicated efficacy for reducing suicide attempt risk among the high-risk group of youths presenting with suicidal behavior.

This presentation will focus on treatment strategies for youths presenting with elevated suicide and suicide attempt risk. Recent trials will be reviewed including: a large multi-site trial evaluating dialectical behavior therapy for highly suicidal self-harming youths; and an evaluation of the SAFETY program, a cognitive-behavioral family centered intervention. New directions for intervening within health systems to reduce suicide and suicide attempts and approach the aspirational goal of zero suicide will also be discussed.