

Review of: "Child and adolescent self-harm in a pandemic world: Evidence from a decade of data"

Nermin Yücel

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

This article is an important study that examines the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on self-harm rates among children and adolescents. The article analyzes self-harm referrals from regional child and adolescent addiction, mental health, and psychiatry programs over a ten-year period. The research is valuable in increasing our understanding of the topic and emphasizing the importance of a comprehensive, multi-site approach in Canada.

Positive Aspects:

The research topic is significant: The COVID-19 pandemic is a period that is believed to have negative effects on the mental health of children and adolescents. The article addresses this issue by investigating the impact of the pandemic on self-harm rates. This is a valuable contribution to the literature.

The data source and methods are clearly described: The article utilizes data from a regional access and intake system called RAIS. The data source and analysis methods are clearly defined, which enhances the reproducibility of the study.

The discussion section is comprehensive: The article's discussion section effectively addresses the significance of the findings and discusses the gaps in child and adolescent mental health services and the necessity of current policy guidance.

Negative Aspects:

Generalizability limitations exist: The data presented in the article is specific to a particular region in Canada, and self-harm rates may vary in other regions. To reach more generalizable conclusions, a more comprehensive national approach is needed.

The conclusions can be made more specific: The article lacks statistical significance values or numerical data for the findings. Therefore, the conclusions need to be presented more clearly and specifically.

Conclusion:

This article is a valuable study that examines the impact of self-harm rates among children and adolescents. The research topic is significant, and the data source is clearly stated. However, there is a need for additional details regarding the methods, addressing generalizability limitations, and presenting more specific conclusions. With these improvements, the article will further enhance its scientific contribution.

