

P43: Increase in suicide rates in the elderly population of the state of São Paulo: could Alzheimer's disease be a risk factor? - A Brief Report

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Objectives: In recent years, there has been an increase in suicide rates in Brazil. From 2015 to 2019 we had a 34% increase in self-inflicted deaths. Are there some subgroups at greater risk of suicide, such as the old people with Alzheimer's disease?

Methods: The data were obtained by consulting the systems of the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE) of the Brazilian Ministry of Health (DataSUS). Population data were measured and compared in the years 2010 and 2022, using the last two censuses.

Results: Between 2010 and 2022, the number of registered deaths of patients with Alzheimer's increased by 21.93%. Similarly, there was a 100.37% increase in suicides among the elderly population in the same period, compared to a 37.78% increase in the general population.

Conclusions: It is not possible to conclude that the increase in suicide among the elderly is directly linked to Alzheimer's disease. However, further studies are needed to determine if there is a correlation.

P44: Suicide behavior in Alzheimer's disease: Searching for new insights.

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Objectives: The increase in suicidal behavior in patients treated with promising new drugs for Alzheimer's disease is a dilemma that deserves to be understood. The correlations between suicide and neurodegenerative disorders have been debated for decades in the context of ethics, considering that many people with cognitive decline have opted for euthanasia. The academic community is invited to pay greater attention to issues other than ethics that can improve the quality of life of people with dementia.

Methods: We sought to read the review articles on Pubmed on the topic over the last two decades to identify possible factors that are correlating suicide with Alzheimer's Disease. The data were grouped and presented to demonstrate possible studies that should be carried out to clarify the topic better.

Results: Depression and the presence of the E4 allele of Apolipoprotein E were the main correlation factors between Alzheimer's disease and suicide.

Conclusions: Targeted studies are needed to understand better the occurrence of depression in Alzheimer's disease, as well as the role of the E4 allele in mood disorders and suicidal behavior.