



The Sad Statistics of Teenage Suicide

Why does Pediatric & Adolescent Health Partners ask our 12 year and older patients on their annual Preventive Care Visits about suicide?

#2	Suicide is the second leading cause of death for persons aged 10-24. There were 1,047 suicides in Virginia, the highest rate in 13 years and this included 131 adolescents
80%	of those who die by suicide had contact with a medical professional 3 months prior to killing themselves
#2	In 2013, more kids died from suicide than from 7 other leading causes of death--HIV, Infection, Diabetes, Pneumonia, Stroke, Heart Disease and Cancer combined
83%	of attempters presented with physical complaints and were not recognized by their Primary Care Provider as being suicidal
#1	Suicide is now the leading cause of death for girls 15-19 worldwide — outranking accidents, illnesses and complications from pregnancy <i>--Report released in 2015 from the World Health Organization</i>
1,150	Virginia students (in 1 nearby county) in 2011 reported attempting suicide in the past year. In the US, 2 million young people attempt suicide annually. 2.5 million high school students reported "seriously considered suicide" in the past 12 months
90%	of suicide attempts are unknown to parents and 69% had less than 30-minute interval between suicidal thoughts and the actual attempt
~39%	of attempters did not screen positive on a validated depression tool. That's why suicide screening should always be done, not just when our patients present w/ depression.