

Online supplementary material

Table S1 Search strategy used to identify articles related to suicide in anaesthetists.†

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- 1 drug overdose/ or self mutilation/ or self-injurious behaviour/ or suicidal ideation/ or suicide, attempted/ or suicide/ or (acetaminophen/po or carbon monoxide poisoning/ or drowning/)
 - 2 (parasuicid* or selfharm* or self harm* or selfinjur* or self injur* or selfmutilat* or self mutilat* or suicid* or selfdestruct* or self destruct* or selfpoison* or self poison* or (self adj2 cut*) or cutt* or overdos* or selfimmolat* or self immolat* or selfinflict* or self inflict* or automutilat* or auto mutilat* or drowning or hanging*1 or ((fall* or jump*) adj2 train*) or ((acute or carbon monoxide or fatal or severe) adj2 (intoxicat* or poison*)) or ((absorption or consumption or ingest* or inject* or selfinject* or selfingest*) adj2 (bleach* or caustic agent* or corrosive* or ((cleaning or household) adj product*) or detergent* or dettol* or diesel or foreign bod* or gasoline or insecticide* or pesticide* or petrol or poison* or shampoo*)) or (poison* adj2 (acetaminophen or bleach* or carbon monoxide or caustic agent* or corrosive* or ((cleaning or household) adj product*) or detergent* or dettol* or diesel or foreign bod* or gasoline or insecticide* or paracetamol or pesticide* or petrol or shampoo*)) or (drug* adj2 (ingest* or poison*))) .ti,ab.
 - 3 1 or 2
 - 4 anesthesiology/ or ("anesthesia and analgesia"/ or exp anesthesia/ or anesthesia department, hospital/) and (hospitalists/ or exp medical staff/ or physician*.hw.)
 - 5 (anaesthetist* or anesthetist* or anaesthesiologist* or anesthesiologist*).ti,ab.
 - 6 4 or 5
 - 7 3 and 6
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†Boolean operators and field tags formatted according to database searched.

Table S2 Quality rating scale for category A (epidemiological) papers [used with permission from 24].
Shaded items were used to assess the risk of bias.

Item number	Description of quality rating item	Score
1	Definition of suicide	
	Clear definition of suicide used e.g. International Classification of Diseases codes identified	1
	Unclear definition of suicide e.g. 'cases where death was due to suicide'	0
2	Source of numerator data	
	National or official source of mortality data e.g. Office for National Statistics	1
	Regional or unofficial source of mortality data e.g. obituaries	0
3	Source of denominator data	
	National or official source of population data	1
	Regional or unofficial source of population data	0
4	Study duration	
	> 5 years	1
	≤ 5 years	0
5	Study period	
	Clear definition of study period e.g. 1966–2000	1
	Study period unclear e.g. '10 year period'	0
6	Anaesthetist population data	
	No. suicides/no. all deaths reported or rate of suicide reported	1
	No. suicides/no. all deaths not reported or rate of suicide not reported	0
7	Comparison population data	
	No. suicides/no. all deaths reported or rate of suicide reported	1
	No. suicides/no. all deaths not reported or rate of suicide not reported	0
8	Number and type of comparisons made	
	Statistical comparisons made with general population and a specific occupational group	1
	None or one comparison made	0
9	Appropriateness of comparison group (gender)	
	Comparisons made by gender or comparison group statistics adjusted for gender	1
	Comparisons not made by gender or comparison group not adjusted for gender	0
10	Appropriateness of comparison group (age)	
	Comparisons made by age or comparison group statistics adjusted for age	1
	Comparisons not made by age or comparison group not adjusted for age	0
11	Significance of comparison statistics	
	Statistical values reported	1
	Statistical values not reported	0
12	Study limitations	
	Authors identify possible sources of bias	1
	Authors do not identify possible sources of bias	0

Table S3 Quality rating scale for category B (survey) papers. Shaded items were used to assess the risk of bias. Adapted from several sources [25-27].

Item number	Description of quality rating item	Score
1	Definition of outcome	
	According to validated system e.g. mental state score, International Classification of Diseases codes	1
	Verbal description or unvalidated e.g. visual analogue scale	0
2	Source/definition of target group	
	From national registry or professional body	1
	Regional or unofficial source	0
3	Targeting of potential respondents	
	Individuals targeted e.g. via directed post/emails etc	1
	Open invitation to respond e.g. to online survey or emailed to a dept to disseminate	0
4	Study period	
	Defined start/close dates of survey	1
	Start/close dates not defined	0
5	Sample size	
	Justified e.g. according to 95% CI or limited no. of members of a professional group	1
	Not justified	0
6	Response rate	
	≥ two thirds	1
	< two thirds or not given	0
7	Precision of results	
	Confidence intervals reported for main outcome(s)	1
	Confidence intervals not reported or reported sparingly and not for main outcome(s)	0
8	Demographics	
	Age and gender reported	1
	One or none reported	0
9	Analysis of results	
	Appropriate sub-group or other statistical analysis, e.g. by age, gender	1
	No further analysis or analysis but methodologically inappropriate and/or not accounting for imprecision/validity of results	0
10	Study limitations	
	Authors identify possible sources of bias	1
	Authors do not identify possible sources of bias	0