

2021 Virtual Conference

IASR/AFSP International Summit on Suicide Research
October 24-27, 2021

General Conference Information



International Academy
of Suicide Research



American
Foundation
for Suicide
Prevention

Welcome from the Conference Co-Chairs

Dear Colleagues,

It is our great pleasure to welcome you to *2021 International Summit on Suicide Research* sponsored by the International Academy of Suicide Research (IASR) and the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) to be held virtually. The theme for the 2021 Summit is ***Suicide Research and Prevention Without Borders***. We have planned the meeting so that it provides a forum for all investigators working in suicide research to present their latest data, exchange new ideas, and discuss ongoing developments. To this, we bring together the best investigators working in diverse areas of research on suicidal behavior, from molecular geneticists to epidemiologists and interventions researchers, seeking to generate new interdisciplinary conversations that can evolve into approaches to better understand suicidal behavior, how to detect those at risk and to prevent it. It is our hope that each participant will come away from this meeting energized with an appreciation of the breadth and depth of the work being conducted in our field. Many special features of the meeting are designed to mentor, support and educate young investigators who are the future of our research endeavors.

This year's meeting includes plenaries, oral presentations, and posters covering a breadth of topics and has **participation from over 33 countries**. We have nothing less than the best scientific program of any conference related to suicide on the planet. This is the core of our meeting. You will find the program to be both the best research, the most important research topics and diverse in scope. We sought to engage younger and older investigators in giving talks, to be inclusive in terms of gender and sex and race and ethnicity.

We are particularly pleased to present to you two virtual poster sessions, which will take place on Monday at 1:00 PM EDT and Tuesday at 1:45 PM EDT. Attendees will be able to view the virtual posters, hear audio presentations, engage in the discussion forums, and in most cases, speak directly with the poster presenters during the poster hour via teleconference. We believe that these events should be both informative and entertaining, and we encourage all meeting participants to attend and interact with the poster presenters, as well as meet with other colleagues.

In addition to housing the full virtual conference agenda with speaker information, abstracts, and recordings, the platform also offers an attendee lounge, job board, discussion forum boards, and an attendee chat feature for a high level of attendee engagement and interaction.

This conference would not be taking place without the efforts of many individuals. In particular, the Organizing Committee would like to thank Kelly Phy and Kara Moeller of Parthenon Management Group, as well as our Scientific Program and Advisory Committees for their continual, invaluable work in all aspects of the planning and preparation of the meeting. We also want to acknowledge the support of AFSP and the strong partnership between IASR and AFSP that has been building since 2013.

Although we are disappointed not to be with you in person, we are thankful that the technology exists to allow us to continue to share ideas and discourse on such an important topic during these uncertain times. If there is anything we can do to make your meeting experience a more productive and enjoyable one, please let us know.

Sincerely,



J. John Mann, M.D.
Columbia University and
New York State Psychiatric Institute
United States
2021 Summit Co-Chair



Ping Qin, M.D., Ph.D.
National Centre for Suicide Research and
Prevention, University of Oslo
Norway
2021 Summit Co-Chair

About the 2021 Summit

2021 IASR/AFSP International Summit on Suicide Research

Suicide Research and Prevention Without Borders
October 24-27, 2021 | Virtual Conference

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This meeting will bring together suicide researchers studying topics ranging from neurobiology, epidemiology and genetics to assessment, intervention and prevention. All suicide researchers and those interested in learning about the most cutting-edge evidence are invited to attend and take advantage of this excellent opportunity to network and interact. In addition to plenary sessions with preeminent suicide researchers and symposia, the meeting will include a mentoring program, poster sessions, and workshops addressing methodological issues particular to suicide research. Workshops will cover topics such as assessment of suicidal behavior and risk, strategies for research on low base rate outcomes, use of technology and proxy measures, approaches to facilitate inclusion of underrepresented populations, study design options that produce robust and reliable results, and guidance for the safe inclusion of individuals at high-risk for suicidal behavior.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After participating in this live event:

- Participants will be able to articulate the key findings in the development of preventive, intervention, and implementation strategies and how to incorporate translational research strategies into preventive, intervention, and implementation research on suicide.
- Participants will be able to describe methodological and ethical challenges in research design for studies where the outcome of interest is suicidal ideation and behavior.
- Participants will be able to enumerate the most recent neurobiological, genetic, psychological and social evidence related to suicidal behavior.

TARGET AUDIENCE

The target audience for this event is professionals that conduct research or treat patients in the field of suicidology or other related fields.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Visit the CME Center in the Virtual Conference Hall for complete continuing education information!

About the Organizers



International Academy
of Suicide Research

The International Academy for Suicide Research is an organization that promotes high standards of research and scholarship in the field of suicidal behaviour by fostering communication and co-operation among scholars engaged in such research.

The Academy's official publication is the *Archives of Suicide Research*. This is a peer-reviewed journal published by Taylor & Francis.

The Academy holds annual scientific and business meetings. These have been held in conjunction with conferences such as the International Association for Suicide Prevention, the European Symposium on Suicide and Suicidal Behaviour, and the American Association of Suicidology.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.suicide-research.org/> or visit their virtual information table in the virtual conference hall.



**American
Foundation
for Suicide
Prevention**

Established in 1987, the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) is a voluntary health organization that gives those affected by suicide a nationwide community empowered by research, education and advocacy to take action against this leading cause of death.

AFSP is dedicated to saving lives and bringing hope to those affected by suicide. AFSP creates a culture that's smart about mental health by engaging in the following core strategies:

- Funding scientific research
- Developing public education
- Advocating for public policies in mental health and suicide prevention
- Supporting survivors of suicide loss and those affected by suicide in our mission

Led by CEO Robert Gebbia and headquartered in New York, and with a public policy office in Washington, D.C., AFSP has local chapters in all 50 states with programs and events nationwide. Learn more about AFSP in its latest Annual Report, and join the conversation on suicide prevention by following AFSP on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), and [You Tube](#).

For more information, please visit: <https://www.afsp.org/> or visit their virtual information table in the conference hall.

Thank You!

to our valued sponsors

The Summit would like to acknowledge the generosity of the following companies whose corporate support has contributed to the overall quality of this meeting:

GOLD LEVEL SPONSORSHIP:



The Summit would like to acknowledge the generosity of the following companies unrestricted educational grants has contributed to the overall quality of this meeting:

Sunovion Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Join the Conversation!



@SuicideSummit
#Science2StopSuicide



International Academy
of Suicide Research

@IASR_Suicide



**American
Foundation
for Suicide
Prevention**

@afspnational



THE MORSELLI MEDAL 2021 RECIPIENTS

The Morselli Medal is awarded every two years by the International Academy for Suicide Research (IASR) to an individual who has made an outstanding and important lifetime contribution to the study of suicidal behaviour and/or suicide prevention. This is the Academy's most distinguished award and is intended to be a "lifetime achievement" award. The Award is named in honour of Enrico Morselli, late of the University of Genoa School of Medicine who is regarded as being the first scientific, statistically informed epidemiologist in suicidology.

Danuta Wasserman, MD, PhD, Karolinska Institute



Danuta Wasserman (DW) is a psychiatrist and Univ. Prof. Dr. Med. in Psychiatry and Suicidology at Karolinska Institutet (KI), and the current Director and Founding Head of the National Centre for Suicide Research and Prevention of Mental Ill-Health (NASP) at KI, since 1993. DW has been appointed as the Director of the WHO Collaborating Centre for Research, Methods Development and Training in Suicide Prevention since 1997 and assists in the development of mental health promotion and suicide preventive programs on five continents. DW's research activities comprise epidemiological, psychodynamic and genetic studies of suicidal behaviours.

Gustavo Turecki, MD, PhD McGill University



Gustavo Turecki MD PhD is a clinician scientist whose work focuses on understanding brain molecular changes that occur in major depression and suicide, as well as molecular processes that explain treatment response. Dr. Turecki is Full Professor and Chair of the Department of Psychiatry at McGill University. He is the Scientific Director of the Douglas Institute and the Director of the McGill Group for Suicide Studies, a multidisciplinary suicide research group (www.mgss.ca) that comprises the Douglas Bell-Canada Brain Bank (www.douglasbrainbank.ca). Dr. Turecki has conducted pioneering research which has led to our understanding of how traumatic life experiences impacts brain gene function and increases long-term risk for suicide by epigenetically regulating critical genes involved in stress responses and behavioral development.

THE AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION 2021 YIG RESEARCH AWARDEES

Leslie Adams, PhD, MPH
Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

Jody Russon, PhD
Virginia Tech Department of Human Development and Family Science

ARCHIVES OF SUICIDE RESEARCH BEST PAPER OF THE YEAR AWARD

2020

Alexa Raudales, Nicole Short and Norman Schmidt

Emotion Dysregulation as a Prospective Predictor of Suicidal Ideation in an at-Risk Mixed Clinical Sample

Raudales AM, Short NA, Schmidt NB. Emotion Dysregulation as a Prospective Predictor of Suicidal Ideation in an at-Risk Mixed Clinical Sample. Arch Suicide Res. 2020;24(sup2):S310-S322. doi: 10.1080/13811118.2019.1598526. Epub 2019 May 8. PMID: 30955483.

2019

Jessica Heerde and Sheryl Hemphill

Are Bullying Perpetration and Victimization Associated with Adolescent Deliberate Self-Harm? A Meta-Analysis

Heerde JA, Hemphill SA. Are Bullying Perpetration and Victimization Associated with Adolescent Deliberate Self-Harm? A Meta-Analysis. Arch Suicide Res. 2019 Jul-Sep;23(3):353-381. doi: 10.1080/13811118.2018.1472690. Epub 2018 Nov 16. PMID: 29791272.

JAMES KIRK BERNARD FOUNDATION AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE BIOLOGICAL EXPLORATION OF SUICIDE



Nikolaj Høier

The University of Edinburgh
Division of Psychiatry
Centre for Clinical Brain Sciences

For his presentation:

Association of Hospital-Diagnosed Sleep Disorders With Suicide: A Nationwide Cohort Study

Oral Presentation Time: Sunday, October 24th during the *Pathways to Suicide* oral session starting at 12:00 PM EDT / 6:00 PM CEST.

Nikolaj Høier, is a medical student from The University of Copenhagen and a Master of Science by Research in Psychiatry student at the University of Edinburgh. Nikolajs main area of interest is how sleep disturbance and disorders affect peoples risk for suicide. The main focus being on the association of sleep disorders or sleep medication and suicide risk.

James
Kirk
Bernard
Foundation



The research mission of the James Kirk Bernard Foundation is to explore the biology of suicide in order to identify biological risk factors and pathways involved in suicide behavior

Create - Connect - Contribute

jameskirkbernardfoundation.org

Early Career Researcher Forum

ECR FORUM

The International Academy of Suicide Research (IASR) and the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) are committed to the development of Early Career Researchers (ECRs), such as graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, residents, and junior faculty, within the field of suicidology. At a time when we may feel isolated from our colleagues due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, building supportive networks is more important now than ever.

To foster a supportive suicide prevention research community, we are planning an exciting and valuable program for ECRs during the 2021 Virtual International Summit on Suicide Research,. The ECR forum was one of the most talked-about aspects of the 2019 program, and even though we have to go virtual this year, we are excited to offer another stimulating, interactive program!

Inaugurated at the 2013 IASR meeting, the forum pairs ECRs with established senior investigators based upon their shared research interests. Mentors and mentees will meet at an afternoon session at 10:30 AM EDT / 4:30 PM CEST on Tuesday, October 26, at which Diego de Leo (Emeritus Professor of Psychiatry at Griffith University, Brisbane; Director Emeritus of the World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Centre for Research and Training in Suicide Prevention) will be giving the ECR keynote talk and passing on his words of wisdom for those starting out in the field of suicidology. As well as our special guest speaker, we have also organized a “Mentoring Across Borders” activity, based around the Summit theme of “suicide prevention without borders”. During this event, ECRs will have the opportunity to meet a variety of senior researchers and fellow ECRs with overlapping interests and interact together in a brief group activity to collaboratively address a key challenge in the field. As always, each ECR will be matched in advance with a specific mentor and will then be able to meet with them later in the conference.



Prof. Diego de Leo

Diego de Leo is Emeritus Professor of Psychiatry at Griffith University in Brisbane, where he is Director Emeritus of the World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Centre for Research and Training in Suicide Prevention. He was the founder of the Life Promotion Clinic, the only clinical service in Australia that deals exclusively with suicidal patients, and also the creator and former convenor of the Postgraduate programs, Graduate Certificate and Master of Suicidology at the Australian Institute for Suicide Research and Prevention (AISRAP), at Griffith University. Professor de Leo was President of the International Association for Suicide Prevention (IASP) and co-founder and Past-President of the International Academy for Suicide Research (IASR) of which he is also co-founder of the journal Archives of Suicide Research. The foundation in the name of his children, De Leo Fund, based in Padua, Italy, is now a national and international reference for the assistance to people who have suffered a traumatic loss.

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