APPENDIX A. SEARCH STRATEGIES

OVID MEDLINE searched from 2005 – November 18, 2011						
Suicide	'Suicide" [Mesh] OR "Suicide, Attempted" [Mesh] OR suicid*					
Risk	"Risk" [Mesh] OR "Risk Assessment" [Mesh] OR "Risk Factors" [Mesh]					
	OR risk[Title/Abstract]					
Screening	"mass screening" [Mesh] OR "Validation studies" [Publication Type]					
	OR Screening[title] OR screen[title] OR assessment[title] OR					
	assessments[title] OR questionnaire[title] OR questionnaires[title] OR					
	instrument[title] OR instruments[title] OR tool[title] OR tools[title] OR					
	scale[title] OR scales[title] OR measure[title] OR measures[title]					
Prevention	Prevent* OR depression OR health education OR health promotion					
	OR public opinion OR mass screening OR family physicians OR					
	medical Education OR primary healthcare OR antidepressive agents OR					
	psychotherapy OR schools OR adolescents OR methods OR firearms OR					
	overdose OR poisoning OR gas poisoning OR mass media					
Suicide	("Suicide/prevention and control" [Mesh] OR Suicide, Attempted/					
Prevention	prevention and contril"[Mesh]) NOT (case report* OR editorial* OR					
	letter)					
Suicide Prevention OR (Suicide AND (Risk OR Screening OR Prevention)						

PsycINFO, Cochrane and HAPI Search November 18, 2011

Limited from 2005 - November 18, 2011

Search Strategy:

- 1 exp Attempted Suicide/ or exp Suicide Prevention/
- 2 (prevent* or depression or health education or health promotion or public opinion or mass screening or family physicians or medical education or primary health care or antidepressive agents or psychotherapy or schools or adolescents or methods or firearms or overdose or poisoning or gas poisoning or mass media).mp. [mp=title, abstract, heading word, table of contents, key concepts, original title, tests & measures]
- 3 suicide.mp. [mp=title, abstract, heading word, table of contents, key concepts, original title, tests & measures]
- 4 2 and 3
- 5 1 or 4
- 6 exp Case Report/
- 7 editorial.mp.

- 8 letter.mp.
- 9 6 or 7 or 8
- 10 5 not 9
- 11 exp Attempted Suicide/ or exp Suicide/ or suicide.mp.
- 12 (suicide or suicidal or suicides or sucidality).mp. [mp=title, abstract, heading word, table of contents, key concepts, original title, tests & measures]
- 13 11 or 12
- 14 exp Risk Assessment/ or risk.mp. or exp Risk Factors/
- 15 exp Screening/
- 16 exp test validity/
- 17 screening.m_titl.
- 18 screen.m_titl.
- 19 assessment.m_titl.
- 20 assessments.m_titl.
- 21 questionnaire.m_titl.
- 22 questionnaires.m_titl.
- 23 instrument.m_titl.
- 24 instruments.m_titl.
- 25 tool.m titl.
- 26 tools.m_titl.
- 27 scales.m_titl.
- 28 measure.m titl.
- 29 measures.m titl.
- 30 risk.mp.
- 31 14 or 15 or 16 or 17 or 18 or 19 or 20 or 21 or 22 or 23 or 24 or 25 or 26 or 27 or 28 or 29 or 30
- 32 13 and 31
- 33 10 or 32

APPENDIX B. STUDY SELECTION FORM

VA ESP Suicide Prevention Study Selection Process: Coding

Step 1: Importing citations

• Enter database name, search date, and other details into Custom 1.

Step 2: Title/Abstract level coding

- The objective of the title/abstract review phase is to eliminate obviously irrelevant publications. Abstracts that lack an explicit reference to suicidal self-directed violence (e.g., suicidality, behaviors, attempts, and suicides) will be excluded at this phase. Reviewers will provide decision and characteristic codes and these will be recorded in Custom 3 of the EndNote library.
 - <u>Decision codes</u>:
 - **R**=Retrieve
 - E=Exclude
 - **B**=Retrieve for Background
 - <u>Characteristic codes</u>: Our first priority is retrieval of systematic reviews, especially those focusing on Veteran or military populations. Our second priority is retrieval of primary studies in Veteran or military populations. For ease of identifying these subsets of publications in the ENL, reviewers should add either or both of the following codes when applicable:
 - SR=systematic review
 - V=Veteran or military population

Step 3: Full-text level coding

- Record final decision to include study in review, and any other study characteristics of interest
 - Characteristics of interest (recorded in Custom Fields):
 - Population: Veteran and/or military, or non-Veteran or non-military
 - Risk Article Type: Risk factors, or risk assessment
 - Study Design: Systematic Review, clinical trial (randomized or nonrandomized), observational study, or other
 - Full-text exclusion codes to be entered into Custom 4:
 - 1=Non-English language
 - 2=Ineligible country (only including US, UK, Canada, New Zealand, Australia)
 - 3=Ineligible outcome
 - 4=Study does not evaluate risk factors or assessments
 - 5=Ineligible publication type (e.g., letter, editorial, publication available only as abstract, non-systematic review, etc.)
 - 6=Ineligible systematic review due to limitations in quality
 - 7=Nonsystematic regulatory agency analysis
 - 8=Risk factor articles that did not account for major potential confounders
 - 9=Primary articles about risk, not a Veteran or military population
- Full-text coding to be completed in the format of a label affixed to each publication in the format shown below. Reviewer 1 will circle relevant characteristics and inclusion decision and list an exclusion code when applicable. Reviewer 2 will verify Reviewer 1's decisions and circle Agree or Disagree. All disagreements will be resolved using a consensus process and consensus decisions recorded.
- Label:

Pop: Vet-Mil / Non-Vet-Mil Risk: Risk / Assess / NA Design: SR / CT / Obs / Other Rev1: Include / Exclude – Code: _____ Rev2: Agree / Disagree Consensus: _____

APPENDIX C. CRITERIA USED IN QUALITY ASSESSMENT OF SYSTEMATIC REVIEWS

Criteria	Operationalization of Criteria ^a
1. Were the search methods reported?	
Were the search methods used to find evidence (original research) on the	
primary questions stated?	
"Yes" if the review states the databases used, date of most recent searches, and	
some mention of search terms.	
2. Was the search comprehensive?	The purpose of this index is to evaluate the scientific quality (i.e., adherence to scientific
Was the search for evidence reasonably comprehensive?	principles) of research overviews (review articles) published in the medical literature. It is not
"Yes" if the review searches at least 2 databases and looks at other sources	intended to measure literary quality, importance, relevance, originality, or other attributes of
(such as reference lists, hand searches, and queries experts).	overviews.
3. Were the inclusion criteria reported?	The index is for assessing overviews of primary ("original") research on pragmatic questions
Were the criteria used for deciding which studies to include in the overview	regarding causation, diagnosis, prognosis, therapy, or prevention. A research overview is
reported?	a survey of research. The same principles that apply to epidemiological surveys apply to
4. Was selection bias avoided?	overviews: a question must be clearly specified, a target population identified and accessed;
Was bias in the selection of studies avoided?	appropriate information obtained from that population in an unbiased fashion; and conclusions
"Yes" if the review reports how many studies were identified by searches,	derived, sometimes with the help of formal statistical analysis, as is done in "meta-analyses".
numbers excluded, and gives appropriate reasons for excluding them (usually	The fundamental difference between overviews and epidemiological studies is the unit of
because of pre-defined inclusion/exclusion criteria).	analysis, not the scientific issues that the questions in this index address.
5. Were the validity criteria reported?	Since most published overviews do not include a methods section it is difficult to answer some
Were the criteria used for assessing the validity of the included studies	of the questions in the index Base your answers as much as possible on information provided
reported?	in the overview. If the methods that were used are reported incompletely relative to a specific
6. Was validity assessed appropriately?	question, score it as "can't tell," unless there is information in the overview to suggest either the
Was the validity of all the studies referred to in the text assessed using	criterion was or was not met.
appropriate criteria (either in selecting studies for inclusion or in analyzing the	
studies that are cited)?	
"Yes" if the review reports validity assessment and did some type of analysis	
with it (e.g., sensitivity analysis of results according to quality ratings, excluded	
low-quality studies, etc.)	

Criteria	Operationalization of Criteria ^a
7. Were the methods used to combine studies reported?	
Were the methods used to combine the findings of the relevant studies (to reach	
a conclusion) reported?	
"Yes" for studies that did qualitative analysis if there is some mention that	
quantitative analysis was not possible and reasons that it could not be done, or	
if 'best evidence' or some other grading of evidence scheme used.	
8. Were the findings combined appropriately?	For Question 8, if no attempt has been made to combine findings, and no statement is made
Were the findings of the relevant studies combined appropriately relative to the	regarding the inappropriateness of combining findings, check "No" if a summary (general)
primary question the overview addresses?	estimate is given anywhere in the abstract, the discussion, or the summary section of the paper;
"Yes" if the review performs a test for heterogeneity before pooling, does	and if it is not reported how that estimate was derived, mark "No" even if there is a statement
appropriate subgroup testing, appropriate sensitivity analysis, or other such	regarding the limitations of combining the findings of the studies reviewed. If in doubt, mark
analysis.	"Can't tell".
9. Were the conclusions supported by the reported data?	For an overview to be scored as "Yes" in Question 9, data (not just citations) must be reported
<i>Were the conclusions made by the author(s) supported by the data and/or</i>	that support the main conclusions regarding the primary question(s) that the overview addresses.
analysis reported in the overview?	
10. What was the overall scientific quality of the overview?	The score for Question 10, the overall scientific quality, should be based on your answers to
How would you rate the scientific quality of this overview?	the first nine questions. The following guidelines can be used to assist with deriving a summary
	score: If the "Can't tell" option is used one or more times on the preceding questions, a review
	is likely to have minor flaws at best and it is difficult to rule out major flaws (i.e., a score of 4
	or lower). If the "No" option is used on Question 2, 4, 6 or 8, the review is likely to have major
	flaws (i.e., a score of 3 or less, depending on the number and degree of the flaws).
Scoring	Each Question is scored as Yes, Partially/Unclear or No
Extensive Flaws Major Flaws	Minor Flaws Minimal Flaws
1 2 3 4	5 6 7

^a Table created using information from Oxman & Guyatt, J Clin Epidemiol. 1991;44(11):1271-8 and Furlan, Clarke, et al., Spine. 2001 Apr 1;26(7):E155-62.

APPENDIX D. CRITERIA USED IN QUALITY ASSESSMENT OF PRIMARY STUDIES RELATED TO ASSESSING RISK OF ENGAGING IN SUICIDAL SELF-DIRECTED VIOLENCE^a

Dom	nain	Description
1.	Adequate description of population	Study describes inclusion criteria for selecting patients, demographics (at least age), and
		setting (primary care vs. hospital vs. other).
2.	Non-biased selection	Study either reports enrolling (or attempting to enroll) a consecutive series of patients
		meeting inclusion criteria, or a random sample.
3.	Low loss to follow-up/missing data?	Was there important differential loss to follow-up or overall high loss to follow-up?
		Numbers should be given for each group.
4a.	Standardized method of risk factor assessment	Standardized, reproducible methods of assessment and scoring must be reported or
	and scoring clearly described or referenced.	referenced.
4b.	Unbiased risk factor assessment by independent	Study describes unbiased risk factor assessment by independent assessors.
	assessors?	
5a.	Adequate outcome measurement?	Study clearly describes standardized and reproducible methods to identify/define the events
		- suicide attempt or behavior - in the entire population of eligible participants regardless of
		initial risk assessment.
5b.	Unbiased outcome measurement by independent	Study clearly describes unbiased methods to identify/define the events - suicide attempt or
	assessors?	behavior - by independent assessors.
6.	Adequate accounting for potential confounders?	Potential confounders are accounted for by a comparable control group or statistical methods
		of adjustment.

^a Modified from Hayden et al. 2006 and Harris et al. 2001.^{9,10}

APPENDIX E. CRITERIA USED IN QUALITY ASSESSMENT OF PRIMARY STUDIES RELATED TO ADDITIONAL RISK FACTORS TO PREDICT SUICIDAL SELF-DIRECTED VIOLENCE^a

Don	nain	Description
1. A	Adequate description of population	Study describes inclusion criteria for selecting patients, demographics (at least age), and setting
		(primary care vs. hospital vs. other).
2. N	Non-biased selection	Study either reports enrolling (or attempting to enroll) a consecutive series of patients meeting
		inclusion criteria, or a random sample (was any group of patients systematically excluded?)
3. I	Low loss to follow-up/missing data	Was there low overall missing data and no differences between comparison groups in missing
a	adequately described?	data? Was there an adequate description of the handling of missing data? Numbers should be
(Yes/Partly/No/Unsure)	given for each group.
4. <i>A</i>	Adequate/unbiased risk factor measurement?	Study describes reproducible and appropriate methods for measuring prognostic factors. Note
(Yes/Partly/No/Unsure)	the inadequate factors as applicable (e.g., depression without description of measurement
		method or use of inferior method such as self-report).
5. A	Adequate/unbiased outcome measurement?	Study clearly describes reproducible and appropriate methods to identify/define the events -
(Yes/Partly/No/Unsure)	suicide attempt or behavior. Were methods objective or self-report?
6. V	Was the sample size adequate (including	Study has adequate participant numbers to assess differences in suicide rates based on risk
a	adequate number of outcome events)?	factors. Studies of higher risk populations (psychiatric disorders, prior suicide attempts) may
(Yes/No/Unsure)	need fewer people to have adequate sample size.
	· · · ·	
7. A	Adequate statistical adjustment	Study performs statistical adjustment or controls for one or more potential confounders using
		acceptable statistical methods (must include 1 of the following: suicidal ideation, any mental
		health diagnosis, prior suicide attempt, substance abuse).
8. N	Number of required confounders adjusted for	Count of the confounders reported in $\#7$ (total possible = 4).
i	n analysis	
9. E	External validity	Is the population relevant to the population of interest? Describe.

^a Modified from Hayden et al. 2006 and Harris et al. 2001.^{9,10}

APPENDIX F. QUALITY RATING OF SYSTEMATIC REVIEWS USING OXMAN AND GUYATT[®] CRITERIA

Author, Year of systematic review	Search methods reported	Comprehensive search	Inclusion criteria reported	Selection bias avoided	Validity criteria reported	Validity assessed appropriately	Methods used to combine studies reported	Findings combined appropriately	Conclusions supported by data	Overall scientific quality (range 1-7; higher score is better)
Bhui 2007 ⁷¹	Yes - no search dates (lists only publication dates)	Yes	Yes	Unclear - study design not addressed; study comparing rates among ethnic groups	Yes - used 5 criteria from their own previously published work; dual review	Yes	Unclear - no exclusions made on the basis of quality	No - only two studies included in meta-analysis	Yes	5
Borschmann 201172	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	NA	NA - no pooling	Yes	3
Bowers 2010 ⁷³	Partially - no end date for search	Yes	No	No	No	No	Unclear	Unclear	No quantitative conclusions	2
Bridge 200774	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	7
Burrows 2010 ⁷⁵	Partially - dates not reported	Yes	Yes	No - numbers of studies identified, screened, and excluded not reported	No	No	NA - no pooling	NA - no pooling	Yes	3
Calabria 2010 ⁷⁶	Yes	Yes	Yes	Excluded reviews, case series, and irrelevant studies	Yes	McGrath and Saha method, Delphi method	Unclear if any studies were excluded because of poor quality but all included studies scored ≥6	Only 2 studies included in meta-analysis with suicide as outcome	Yes	6
Calati 2011 ⁷⁷	Partially - end date only	Yes	Yes	No report of total number identified	Yes	Yes	Unclear if any excluded because of quality	Yes	Yes	5
Carpenter 201178	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Unclear	1
Chen 2010 ⁷⁹	Yes	Partially - no hand searching or reference lists	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	6
Goldman-Mellor 2010 ⁸⁰	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Unclear	Unclear - not used in analyses	Unclear - no meta-analysis	Unclear	4
Hammerness 200681	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	NA	NA - no pooling	Yes	3
Haw 2005 ⁸²	Yes	Yes	Yes	2 independent reviewers for abstracts but no report of decisions	No	Unclear	Yes	Unclear	Yes	5

Author, Year of systematic review	Search methods reported	Comprehensive search	Inclusion criteria reported	Selection bias avoided	Validity criteria reported	Validity assessed appropriately	Methods used to combine studies reported	Findings combined appropriately	Conclusions supported by data	Overall scientific quality (range 1-7; higher score is better)
Hawton 200583	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes - but design only	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	6
Hor 2010 ⁸⁴	Yes	Partially - no hand searching	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No - did not do meta-analysis	Unclear	5
Innamorati 201185	Yes	Partially - no hand searching	Yes - but vague	Unclear	No	No	No - narrative summary	Unclear	Unclear	1
Kallert 2008 ⁸⁶	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially - reports details of validity assessment, but no analysis based on findings	NA	NA - no pooling	Yes	6
Kim 2008 ⁸⁷	Partially - dates not reported	No - databases only	Yes	No - only reports number of articles reviewed at full-text level	No	NA	NA	NA - no pooling	Yes	3
King 200888	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	7
Large 2011 ⁸⁹	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	7
Lemon 200990	Partially	Yes	Yes	No - only reports number of articles reviewed at full-text level	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	4
Maniglio 201191	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	7
McMillan 200792	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	3
Mironova 201193	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No - "Formal quality assessment rules were not applied, given the lack of consensus and evaluation tools to assess observational studies."	No	NA	NA - no pooling	Yes	3
O'Connor 2009 ⁹⁵ & O'Connor 2009 ⁹⁴	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	7
Perry 201096	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	7
Platt 201097	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No - no mention	NA - no pooling	Yes	6
Rhodes 201198	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No (same as Mironova 2011) ⁹³	No	NA	NA - no pooling	Yes	3
Rowell 200899	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No - design only	No	No	No	2

Author, Year of systematic review	Search methods reported	Comprehensive search	Inclusion criteria reported	Selection bias avoided	Validity criteria reported	Validity assessed appropriately	Methods used to combine studies reported	Findings combined appropriately	Conclusions supported by data	Overall scientific quality (range 1-7; higher score is better)
Sakinofsky 2007 ¹⁰¹ & Sakinofsky 2007 ¹⁰⁰ & Sakinofsky 2007 ¹⁰²	Yes	Yes	No	Unclear	Yes	Yes - but weak criteria	NA	NA	Unclear	3
Spiegel 2007 ¹⁰³	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	3
State of Victoria Department of Health 2010 ¹⁰⁴	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No - no mention	Yes	Yes	6
Van Lieshout 2010 ¹⁰⁵	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	7
Weich 2009 ¹⁰⁶	Yes	No - databases only	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5
Williams 2009 ¹⁰⁷ & Williams 2009 ¹⁰⁸	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	7

APPENDIX G. DATA ABSTRACTION FOR PRIMARY STUDIES OBTAINED FROM GOOD QUALITY SYSTEMATIC REVIEWS^a

Author, Year of systematic review	Objective of systematic review	Time period and databases searched in systematic review	Potentially eligible studies for the current risk report	Excluded studies for the current risk report	Eligibility criteria in systematic review
Bridge 2007 ⁷⁴	To assess the efficacy and risk of reported suicidal ideation/suicide attempt of antidepressants for treatment of pediatric MDD, OCD, and non-OCD anxiety disorders	PubMed (1988 to July 2006), Relevant US and British regulatory agency reports, Published abstracts of important scientific meetings (1998-2006), Clinical trial registries	 Berard 2006 Emslie 2006 Emslie 2007 March 2007 Rynn 2007 All non-Veteran, non- military populations 	Studies before 2005: - Birmaher 2003 - Emslie 1997 - Emslie 2002 - Geller 2001 - Geller 2004 - Keller 2001 - Liebowitz 2002 - March 1998 - March 2004 - POTS Study Team 2004 - Riddle 2001 - RUPP Anxiety Study Group 2001 - RUPP Anxiety Study Group 2001 - Simeon 1990 - Wagner 2003 - Wagner 2004 (Paroxetine) Does not report suicide separately from other outcomes: - von Knorring 2006 - Wagner 2006 Ineligible countries: - Berard 2006 (Belgium, Italy, Spain, Netherlands, South Africa, United Arab Emirates, Argentina, Mexico)	Placebo-controlled trials of antidepressants in children and adolescents (age <19 years) with MDD, OCD, and non-OCD anxiety disorders

Author, Year of systematic review	Objective of systematic review	Time period and databases searched in	Potentially eligible studies for the current risk report	Excluded studies for the current risk report	Eligibility criteria in systematic review
Calabria 2010 ⁷⁶	To evaluate cannabis- related mortality	January 1990 to January 2008	No eligible studies	Studies before 2005: - Beautrais 1999 - Fergusson 2002 - Kung 2003 - Wilcox 2004	Studies with a focus on mortality associated with cannabis use or dependence. General population studies between January 1990 and January 2008 were of most interest.
				Not about suicide: Aldington 2008 Andreasson 1990 (Sweden) Bedard 2007 Blows 2005 Chacko 2006 Drummer 2004 Efird 2004 Hashibe 2006 Laumon 2005 (France) Llewellyn 2004 Rosenblatt 2004 Sasco 2002 Sidney 1997 Zhang 1999	
Chen 2010 ⁷⁹	To assess the evidence for an association between sexual abuse and lifetime diagnosis of psychiatric disorders	MEDLINE, EMBASE, CINAHL, Current Contents, PsycINFO, ACP Journal Club, CCTR, CDSR, and DARE between January 1980 and December 2008	 Brezo 2008 Fergusson 2008 Pearce 2008 All studies reviewed and excluded according to specific inclusion/ exclusion criteria for risk report 	Studies before 2005: Brown 1999 De Bellis 1994 Dinwiddle 2000 Ernst 1993 Fergusson 2000 Florentine 1999 Garnefski 1992 Harvey 1994 Plunkett 2001 Rimsza 1988 Ineligible country: Chowdry 2008 (India)	Longitudinal observational studies that compared individuals who had a history of sexual abuse with a control group

Author, Year of	Objective of systematic	Time period and	Potentially eligible studies	Excluded studies for the current	Eligibility criteria in systematic review
systematic review	review	databases searched in systematic review	for the current risk report	risk report	
Systematic review Hawton 2005 ⁸³	review To determine main risk factors for suicide and nonfatal suicidal behavior in patients with bipolar disorder	databases searched in systematic review MEDLINE (1966 to December 2003), EMBASE (1980 to December 2003), Biological Abstracts (1985 to December 2003)	for the current risk report No eligible studies	risk report Studies before 2005: - Angst 2002, Angst and Preisig 1995, Angst 1986 - Black 1988, Black 1987 - Brown 2000 - Cassano 1992, Perugi 1988 (Italy) - Coryell 2003, Coryell 2001, Coryell 1992 - Coryell 2003, Coryell 2001, Coryell 1992, Coryell 1989, Coryell 1987, Endicott 1985	Investigations of patients with bipolar disorder in which suicide (13 studies) or attempted suicide (23 studies) was reported as an outcome
				 Dalton 2003 Dunner 1976 Feinman and Dunner 1996 Goldring and Fieve 1984 Grunebaum 2001, Oquendo 2000 Hantouche 2003 (France) Hoyer 2002 (Denmark) King 2001 Lenzi 1999 (Italy) Leverich 2003, Leverich 2002a, Leverich 2002b, Dittmann 2002, Suppes 2001, McElroy 2001 (various including the Netherlands and Germany) Linkowski 1985 (Belgium) Lopez 2001 (Spain) 	
				 MacKinnon 2003 Maj 1994 (Italy) Nordstrom 1995 (Sweden) Osby 2001 (Sweden) Perugi 1997, Perugi 2000 (Italy) Potash 2000 Serretti 2002a, Serretti 2002b (Italy) Stallone 1980 Steblaj 1999 (Slovenia) Tasuang 1978 Tondo 1999 (Italy) Tsai 2002 (Taiwan) Ucok 1998 (Turkey) Vieta 1997, Vieta 2001, Vieta 2000, Vieta 1999 (Spain) Wu 1993 Young 1993 	

Author, Year of systematic review	Objective of systematic review	Time period and databases searched in systematic review	Potentially eligible studies for the current risk report	Excluded studies for the current risk report	Eligibility criteria in systematic review
Kallert 2008 ⁸⁶	To answer the question: What is the outcome of general psychiatric inpatient care for patients admitted involuntarily compared to patients admitted voluntarily?	Medline (up to March 2006), German PSYNDEXplus (1977 to December 2006)	No eligible studies	Studies before 2005: - Gale 1980 - Read 1993 - Roy 1995	Studies that a) assessed outcomes of involuntary admission and subsequent treatment and outcomes of voluntary admission and subsequent treatment; b) made a statistical comparison between both groups or reported each group's results separately so that a statistical comparison could be computed; c) conducted on general psychiatric wards; d) used either admissions or patients as unit of assessment; e) published in 1980 or later; f) in English or German language; g) reported data on included outcomes
King 2008 ⁸⁸	To establish whether lesbian, gay, and bisexual people are at higher risk of mental disorder, substance misuse, suicide, suicidal ideation and deliberate self- harm than heterosexual people and to quantify this risk	Medline, Embase, PsycINFO, CINAHL, Cochrane Library, Web of Knowledge, Applied Social Sciences Index and Abstracts, International Bibliography of the Social Sciences, Sociological Abstracts, the Campbell Collaboration and grey literature databases (January 1966 to April 2005)	No eligible studies	Studies before 2005: Bagley 1997 Cochran 2000 Faulkner 1988 Fergusson 1999 Gilman 2001 Mathy 2002 Matthews 2002 Remafedi 1988 Robin 2002 Russell 2001 Skegg 2003	Papers that provided valid definition of sexual orientation and mental health outcomes

Author, Year of systematic review	Objective of systematic review	Time period and databases searched in systematic review	Potentially eligible studies for the current risk report	Excluded studies for the current risk report	Eligibility criteria in systematic review
Large 2011 ⁸⁹	To estimate the strength of the association between suicide of psychiatric in- patients and demographic, historical, symptomatic, diagnostic and treatment factors	Medline, PsycINFO, Embase, SINAHL	- Hunt 2007 Non-Veteran, non-military population	Studies before 2005:-Beisser 1961-Gaertner 2002-Gale 1980-Havaki-Kontaxaki 1994 (Greece)-King 2001-Klinkisch 2003 (Germany)-Krupinski 1998 (Germany)-Modestin 1988 (Switzerland)-Modestin 1989 (Switzerland)-Modestin 1992 (Switzerland)-Modestin 1998 (Switzerland)-Modestin 1998 (Switzerland)-Modestin 1998 (Switzerland)-Powel 2000-Read 1993-Schlosser 1982-Schlosser 1982-Schlosser 1998-Shah 1997-Sharma 1998-Spiegl 2002 (Germany)-Steblaj 1999 (Slovenia)-Taiminen 1993 (Finland)-Walkfersdorf 2003 (Germany)-Wolfersdorf 2003 (Germany)-Dong 2005 (Hong Kong, China)-Li 2008 (China)-Neuner 2008 (Germany)-Neuner 2008 (Germany)	1) Reported characteristics of a sample of psychiatric in-patients who had died by suicide either as an inpatient or while on approved or unapproved leave from a mental health facility; 2) Reported characteristics of a control group of psychiatric in-patients who did not commit suicide and who were in-patients in the same or similar mental health facilities at close to the same time as the suicide cases; and 3) Case- control, nested case-control or cohort control design
Maniglio 2011 ⁹¹	To address the best available scientific evidence on the role of child sexual abuse in the etiology of suicide and non-suicidal self-injury	AMED, Cochrane Reviews, EBSCO, ERIC, MEDLINE, PsycINFO, ScienceDirect (January 1966 to December 2008)	No eligible studies	 Studies before 2005: Neumann 1996 (review) Paolucci 2001 (review) Rind 1998 (review) Not about suicide: Klonsky 2008 (non-suicidal self-injury, review) 	1) Appeared in peer-reviewed journals; 2) published in full; 3) were critical reviews of the literature; 4) were not dissertation papers, editorials, letters, conference proceedings, books, and book chapters; 5) reviewed studies sampling human subjects; 6) investigated medical, neurobiological, psychological, behavioral, sexual, or other health problems following childhood sexual abuse; 7) had primary and sufficient data derived from longitudinal, cross-sectional, case-control, or cohort studies. Only reviews that examined suicidal and non-suicidal forms of self-injury following sexual abuse were included.

Author, Year of systematic review	Objective of systematic review	Time period and databases searched in systematic review	Potentially eligible studies for the current risk report	Excluded studies for the current risk report	Eligibility criteria in systematic review
O'Connor 2009 ⁹⁵ & O'Connor 2009 ⁹⁴	To conduct a systematic review about the benefits and harms of screening adult patients for depression in a primary care setting, the benefits of depression treatment in older adults, and the harms of depression treatment with antidepressant medications	MEDLINE, CCRCT, CDSR, DARE, PsycINFO (1998 to 2007)	 Martinez 2005 Simon 2006 All non-Veteran, non- military populations 	Studies before 2005: - Fergusson 2005 - Jick 1995 - Khan 2003 - Storosum 2001 Regulatory reviews/analyses of selected drug company data: - Briefing document 2006 - Committee on Safety of Medicines 2009 - Gunnell 2005 - Hammad 2006 - Levenson 2006 - Store 2006	For harms, focused on already-synthesized evidence, supplemented by large observational studies
Perry 2010 ⁹⁶	To assess the validity of screening instruments to identify the risk of suicide and self-harm behavior in offenders	11 databases between January 1980 and June 2001 and between January 1980 and November 2004	No eligible studies	Studies before 2005: - Arbola-Florez 1988 - Arbola-Florez 1989 - Daigle 1999 - Earthrowl 2002 - Wichmann 2000 Not about suicide: - Perry 2005 (did not assess suicide as an outcome)	Papers that included an assessment of risk for suicide or self-harm behavior using a screening tool
Platt 2010 ⁹⁷	To understand the contribution that access to a means of suicide has on suicide rates within veterinarians	MEDLINE (1950 to May 2008), EMBASE (1980 to May 2008), AMED (1982 to May 2008), BNI (1985 to May 2008), CINAHL (1982 to May 2008), PsycINFO (1806 to May 2008), SCOPUS (to May 2008), Web of Science (1945 to May 2008) and IBSS (1951 to May 2008)	 Jones-Fairnie 2008 Mellanby 2005 Stark 2006 All studies reviewed and excluded according to specific inclusion/ exclusion criteria for risk report 	Studies before 2005: Blair 1980 Blair 1982 Botts 1996 Charlton 1993 Charlton 1995 Fasal 1966 Jeyaretnam 2000 Kelly 1998 Kinlen 1983 Lange 1992 Mammerickx 1985 Millar 2001 Schnurrenberger 1997 Ineligible countries Agerbo 2007 (Denmark) Hem 2005 (Norway)	Included information on suicide, mental illness, stress and other related issues, in relation to veterinary surgeons or studies of veterinary medicine

Author, Year of systematic review	Objective of systematic review	Time period and databases searched in systematic reviewPotentially eligible studies for the current risk report		Excluded studies for the current risk report	Eligibility criteria in systematic review
State of Victoria Department of Health 2010 ¹⁰⁴	To outline known risk factors for suicide, examine effectiveness of assessment instruments and interventions for preventing suicide, suicidal behavior and suicidal ideation	MEDLINE, EMBASE, AMED, PsycINFO (January 1997 to February 2009)	 Barbui 2009 Bridge 2007 Brown 2005 Carter 2005 Carter 2007 Cooper 2005 Donald 2006 Evans 2005 Fergusson 2005 Hawton 2005 Mann 2005 McMain 2007 McMillan 2007 Nock 2006 Bridge 2007 and Hawton 2005 (both systematic reviews) are included in current risk report. All other studies were reviewed and excluded according to specific inclusion/exclusion criteria for risk report. 	Studies before 2005:- Agerbo 2002- Arsenault-Lapierre 2004- Beck 1999- Cedereke 2002- Evans 2004- Guthrie 2001- Harris 1997- Hawton 2000- Horowitz 2001- Huey 2004- Motto 2001- Notto 2001- Nimeus 2000- Prinstein 2001- Rotheram-Borus 2000- van der Sande 1997- van der Sande 1997- Vaiva 2006 (France) Regulatory reviews: - Gunnell 2005	English language, human, suicide-related outcome, sample size >6, no duplication, emergency department or other acute care setting
van Lieshout 2010 ¹⁰⁵	To compare efficacy, acceptability and safety of mood stabilizer monotherapy with combination and antidepressant treatment in adults with acute bipolar depression	Medline (1950 to January 2008), Embase (1980 to 2008), PsycINFO (1967 to January 2008), CINAHL (1982 to January 2008), CCRCT and CDSR (to 2008)	 Calabrese 2005 Non-Veteran, non-military population 	Studies before 2005: - Calabrese 1999 - Tohen 2003 Not about suicide: - Davis 2005 - Ghaemi 2007 (suicidal ideation only) - Thase 2006	Randomized controlled trials of mood stabilizer therapy
Williams 2009 ¹⁰⁷ & Williams 2009 ¹⁰⁸	To assess the health effects of routine primary care screening for MDD among children and adolescents aged 7 to 18 years	DARE, CDSR, Medline, PsycINFO (1998 to May 2006)	 Olfson 2006 Non-Veteran, non-military population 	Studies before 2005: - Martin 2004 - Valuck 2004 Ineligible countries: - Sondergard 2006 (Denmark) Regulatory review: - Hammad 2006 - Kaizar 2006	Systematic reviews, meta-analyses, and evidence-based guidelines on depression screening, treatment, or associated harms in children and adolescents. For harms, used evidence from randomized controlled trials preferentially, then well-designed non- randomized controlled trials and high-quality observational studies with sample sizes of at least 1,000.

^a Good quality systematic reviews were defined as scoring 6 or higher (on a 7-point scale) according to the Oxman and Guyatt 1991 criteria.⁸

APPENDIX H. SUMMARY OF SYSTEMATIC REVIEW RESULTS RELATED TO ASSESSING RISK OF SUICIDE FROM GAYNES ET AL., MANN ET AL., AND NICE REVIEWS⁴⁻⁶

	Gaynes 2004⁵	Mann 2005⁴	NICE 2011 ⁶		
Scope	·	·			
Search dates	1966-October 2002	1966-June 2005	Up to January 2011		
Populations included	Population of interest was primary care patients with previously unidentified suicide risk. Included randomized controlled trials were conducted in high-risk groups as identified by a deliberate self-harm episode, diagnosis of borderline personality disorder, or admission to a psychiatric unit.	Not specified	Adults, children, and young people with previous self-harm behavior		
Suicide-related outcomes included	Attempted suicide and death by suicide	Attempted suicide and death by suicide	Primary outcome was repetition of self-harm; also included suicide outcomes.		
Settings/countries included	For screening, primary care settings No exclusions based on country	Included settings not specified. No exclusions based on country	No exclusions by country		
Additional inclusion/exclusion criteria	For screening, required comparison with a gold standard. Excluded clinical trials targeting patients with chronic psychotic illnesses.		For risk assessment, prospective cohort studies		
Main conclusions: Risk asses	ssment tools				
	No studies address the overarching question of whether screening for suicide risk in primary care patients improves outcomes.	Screening for depression in localized geographic areas results in more treatment of depression and lower suicide rates. Further consideration needs to be given to determining the cost-effectiveness of screening general populations vs identified at-risk populations for reducing suicide rates, the predictive validity and reliability of specific screening instruments, and the appropriateness of standard suicide screening instruments across different cultures.	 Tools to predict suicide: 6 studies (all cohort designs) looked at predicting a fatal outcome such as suicide in people who have self-harmed. Limitations are high false positive rates in scales with the highest sensitivity, use of small samples of mainly people with suicidal ideation, and long follow-up periods to increase prevalence. Because of these limitations, the use of scales to predict the risk of suicide cannot be recommended in clinical practice. Tools to predict repetition of self-harm: The strongest evidence was from prospective cohort studies, conducted mostly in participants who presented to an emergency department following self-harm. All the scales had relatively low positive predictive values ranging from 12% to 60%. This means that many individuals were wrongly identified as people who would repeat self-harm, thus limiting the clinical utility of these scales and possibly resulting in unnecessary intervention in some individuals. 		

APPENDIX I. DATA ABSTRACTION FOR PRIMARY STUDIES RELATED TO ASSESSING RISK OF ENGAGING IN SUICIDAL SELF-DIRECTED VIOLENCE AMONG MILITARY AND VETERAN POPULATIONS

Author,	Population, Setting,	Study	Outcome	Risk Factors/ Covariates Included in Assessment	Desutts	Validation of Assessment	Appropriate for Primary
Breshears 2010 ¹³	154 Veterans with TBI who received care at a VA for at least five years; no history of neurologic disease or non-TBI.	Prospective cohort	Suicide and suicidal behavior	Mental health diagnoses, age, gender, level of education, age at TBI, race/ethnicity, years since TBI, TBI severity, history of substance abuse, Negative Impression scale	Heading Headi	PAI validity information cited	No; PAI is over 100 items and requires a computer program to score. Recommended use is by psychologists as part of an assessment.
Hartl 2005 ¹⁴	630 male Veterans with a primary PTSD diagnosis who consecutively entered the residential treatment program for PTSD at the Palo Alto VA between July 1994 and December 2000. Patient referred to the program by medical and mental health staff in the Pacific Northwest. Mean age 51(Standard deviation [SD] 4.55, range 26-76). 60% Caucasian, 13% Hispanic, 90% Vietnam era Veterans, 86% had served in combat. 72% had a history of incarceration.	Prospective cohort	Suicide attempt	Suicide attempt in the past four months and ever, BDI score, substance use, demographics, combat history	The single best predictor of a suicide attempt after discharge was having attempted suicide in the 4 months prior to intake (χ^2 [df1,296]=15.03, p<0.001). Among those who had not attempted suicide shortly before intake, the next optimal predictor was patients' BDI scores (BDI ≥46 vs <46): χ^2 (df 1252)=10.54, p<0.001. Sensitivity for this model calculated at 0.63, with a specificity of 0.80. In a replication sample, the model resulted in sensitivity of 0.11 and specificity of 0.84.	BDI validity information cited. Replication sample results reported in this paper	Yes; BDI is frequently used in primary care contexts, is brief, and easy to administer and score.
Hendin 2010 ¹⁵	283 in- and outpatients at a VAMC with affective or affective plus substance abuse or anxiety disorders.	Prospective cohort	Suicide and suicidal behavior	Depression and disability/functioning	The ASQ increased odds of prediction of future suicidal behavior by 2.4 in a logistic regression model adjusting for sex, substance abuse, and severity of depression. Using a cutoff of \geq 3, the ASQ resulted in sensitivity of 0.60 and specificity of 0.74.	Article cites pilot testing of the measure in a sample of 254, and reports reliability of 0.77 and a single factor structure for the current sample	Yes; 7-item questionnaire.

Author, Year	Population, Setting, Sample Size	Study Design	Outcome	Risk Factors/ Covariates Included in Assessment Calculation	Results	Validation of Assessment Tool	Appropriate for Primary Care Settings
Nademin 2008 ¹⁶	60 active duty members of the Air Force who died by suicide over a 10 year period and 122 active duty members of the Air Force matched on age, race, gender, and marital status.	Retrospective cohort	Suicide	Gender, race, marital status	IPS total score associated with 1.27 increased odds of suicide when comparing groups after adjustment for age, gender, race, and marital status.	Measure responses were self-report (comparison group) vs estimated by assessors (sample who died by suicide), therefore validity and comparability of surveys is questionable given the sample. IPS included as appendix; other surveys were cited and reliability information reported.	IPS is 34 items; Acquired Capability to Suicide Scale is 20 items; Interpersonal Needs Questionnaire is 25 items. All too long for brief screening in a primary care setting and more appropriately used as part of an in-depth psychological assessment.
Tiet 2006 ¹⁷	34,251 people seeking substance abuse treatment at 150 VAMCs nationally.	Cross- sectional	Suicide attempt	Age, education, gender, race, marital status, employment status, psychiatric diagnoses, suicide history	Decision tree provided comparing rates of suicide attempts for patients grouped according to suicide attempt/ ideation history, recent alcohol abuse, recent cocaine abuse, violent behavior, hallucinations, and employment status, as these variables were the significant predictors of suicide attempt in the population studied.	ASI validity information cited.	ASI is a structured, clinical interview designed to be conducted as part of an intake for a substance abuse treatment program. The clinical interview is lengthy, must be completed by a provider trained in substance abuse treatment, and is not appropriate for brief screening or primary care settings.

APPENDIX J. RISK OF BIAS RATINGS FOR PRIMARY STUDIES RELATED TO ASSESSING RISK OF ENGAGING IN SUICIDAL SELF-DIRECTED VIOLENCE AMONG MILITARY AND VETERAN POPULATIONS^a

Author, Year	1. Adequate description of population	2. Non-biased selection	3. Low loss to follow- up/ missing data?	4a. Standardized method of risk factor assessment and scoring clearly described or referenced	4b. Unbiased risk factor assessment by independent assessors?	5a. Adequate outcome measurement?	5b. Unbiased outcome measurement by independent assessors?	6. Adequate accounting for potential confounders?	Overall assessment of potential for bias (Low/Unclear/ High)
Breshears 2010 ¹³	Yes	Unclear - does not specify consecutive patients, and chart review used to determine which patients met inclusion criteria	Unclear - included only patients with sufficient information in the medical record to confirm TBI and assess injury severity	Unclear - all risk factors were assessed via chart review, though the PAI scoring and reporting is likely standardized even in patients' charts	Unclear – no description of assessor independence or blinding	No - chart review was used as the reference standard for post-PAI suicidal behavior	Unclear - no description of assessor independence or blinding	Yes - though study design was retrospective chart review, all PAI assessments occurred prospectively in relation to suicide-related events, and therefore all potential participants were prospectively assessed as part of one cohort	High
Hartl 2005 ¹⁴	Yes	Yes - consecutive admissions	Unclear - missing data not reported, but used information typically collected at the outset of most treatment programs	Unclear - questionnaires at intake, but the questionnaires themselves were not described or cited. Did not report how patients' war zone trauma exposure was collected. Treatment-related variables are likely to be most accurate for readmissions to this program, less so for admissions from other programs.	Unclear - no description of assessor independence or blinding	Unclear - suicide attempts assessed by the Northeast Program Evaluation Center survey, which is adequately cited, though suicide attempt items are reportedly added to the survey and not standard items	Unclear - no description of assessor independence or blinding	Yes - prospective assessment of a single cohort	High
Hendin 2010 ¹⁵	Yes	Unclear - no description of consecutive or random sample of patients	Yes - 240/283 patients completed both assessments	Yes - standardized procedures and assessment tools described	Yes - states that research assistant assessors were independent	Yes - standardized procedures and assessment tools described. All patients were assessed at follow- up regardless of assessed risk.	Unclear - no description of assessor independence or blinding for outcome assessment	Yes - prospective study design of a single population	Unclear

Author, Year	1. Adequate description of population	2. Non-biased selection	3. Low loss to follow- up/ missing data?	4a. Standardized method of risk factor assessment and scoring clearly described or referenced	4b. Unbiased risk factor assessment by independent assessors?	5a. Adequate outcome measurement?	5b. Unbiased outcome measurement by independent assessors?	6. Adequate accounting for potential confounders?	Overall assessment of potential for bias (Low/Unclear/ High)
Nademin 2008 ¹⁶	Yes	Unclear - abstract states that the study had random sample of people who died by suicide; unclear description for comparison group	Yes - 5% missing data from suicide cases (3/60) and 3% from controls (4/122)	Unclear - psychological autopsy format used to assess mental state and situation based on review of records containing primarily third- person reports. However, used a standardized coding template (Suicide Death Investigation Template) developed by the authors and administered by trained coders that had high inter-rater reliability. Self-report measures used for living comparison sample.	Unclear - no description of assessor independence or blinding	Yes - included deaths by suicide from closed files (no longer under investigation)	Unclear - no description of assessor independence or blinding	No - groups differed with respect to race, marital status, and gender but appropriate statistical adjustments were performed. However, groups likely differed on multiple other un-assessed criteria due to the retrospective design of the study.	High
Tiet 2006 ¹⁷	Yes	Unclear - recruitment time frame not described	Yes - only 2% missing data (95/5671) from Figure 1	Yes - addiction and suicidal ideation: assessed by face-to-face interview with a validated questionnaire (ASI). Psychiatric diagnoses: accessed nationwide VA database to obtain diagnoses made by experienced clinicians during usual care.	Unclear - no description of assessor independence or blinding	Yes - assessed during face-to- face interview with validated questionnaire (ASI)	Unclear - no description of assessor independence or blinding	Yes - all data collected at a single time point from a single population	Unclear

^a Risk of Bias tool modified from Hayden et al. 2006 and Harris et al. 2001.^{9,10}

APPENDIX K. DATA ABSTRACTION FOR PRIMARY STUDIES OF FACTORS TO PREDICT SUICIDAL SELF-DIRECTED VIOLENCE IN MILITARY AND VETERAN POPULATIONS

Author, Year	Study design	Aim of study	Sample size	Data source, sample time frame, location	Population characteristics	Comparison group (if any)	Risk factor(s) measured	Method of measurement of risk factor(s)	Length of follow-up/ observa- tion time	Statistical analysis methods/ Control for confounding	Results
Belik 2009 ¹⁸	Cross- sectional	Determine whether exposure to particular types of traumatic events was differentially associated with suicide attempts	8441	Canadian Community Health Survey Cycle 1.2 - Canadian Forces Supplement (CCHS-CFS)	Canadian military personnel, active military within past 6 months, ages 16-54: 5155 regular force members and 3286 reserve force members	Suicide cases vs non-suicide cases	Exposures to 28 traumatic events during their lifetime, socio-demographics (age, marital status, income, education, rank, type of service), and mental disorders	Traumatic events - 28 items from the PTSD section of the Composite International Diagnostic Interview (CIDI). Socio- demographic variables. Mental disorders - survey based on responses to questions from the CIDI. Alcohol use from the CIDI short form. Lifetime suicide attempts: ever attempted suicide or tried to take own life.	Not applicable (N/A)	All analyses stratified by sex. 3 models: 1) unadjusted; 2) adjusted for socio- demographic factors; and 3) adjusted for socio- demographic factors, the presence of any lifetime mental diagnosis, and a comorbidity variable (3 or more mental disorders). Used p<0.01 in order to account for multiple comparisons.	7 categories: 5 groups of trauma (deployment related, accident or other unexpected, sexual trauma, other inter- personal, civilian in war zone or refugee) and "event happened to other," "other trauma" - 28 individual variables. <u>Males (OR, 95% CI) for suicide attempt):</u> Having purposely injured or killed: 2.69 (1.09-6.61) Toxic chemical exposure: 1.86 (1.09-3.18) Life-threatening illness: 2.25 (1.04-4.89) Civilian in religious terror: 2.38 (1.00-5.72) <u>Females (OR, 95% CI) for suicide attempt::</u> Man-made disaster: 2.16 (1.02-4.55) Child abuse: 2.34 (1.15-4.75) Abused by other person: 3.08 (1.04-9.14) Witness to domestic violence: 1.73 (1.00- 3.01) Stalked: 1.86 (1.09-3.19)
Belik 2010 ¹⁹	Cross- sectional	Compare the prevalence and correlates of suicidal behavior in active duty vs civilian population	36,984 total; 8441 military who completed the CCHS- CFS	CCHS-CFS	Nationally representative Canadian sample, age 15 or older, surveyed between 2001-2002	Compared military to civilian; results presented for military personnel separately	Demographics (education, marital status, income), military rank, regular/ reserve service, environment, number of deployments, combat exposure	Survey	N/A	Logistic regression	Adjusted OR (95% CI) for suicide attempt in past year: Depressive episode: 80.73 (24.78-262.96) Panic attack: Not significant (NS) Social phobia: 11.11 (3.65, 33.80) Alcohol use: NS Alcohol dependence: 12.51 94.13-37.90) Generalized anxiety disorder: 44.80 (16.12- 124.49) PTSD: 26.76 (9.37-76.48) Unadjusted OR (95% CI) for suicide attempt in past year: More senior rank protective (vs junior rank): 0.71 (0.24-3.15) for officer, 0.93 (0.28-2.08) for senior Reserve (vs regular): 0.28 (0.08-0.97) More deployments (vs 0): 0.10 (0.01-2.16) for one, 0.61 (0.11-3.41) for two, 0.69 (0.06- 8.53) for 3 or more Higher odds of suicide attempts for communications/air/sea vs land: 1.23 (0.49-3.13) Combat exposure: 1.83 (0.45-7.53)

Author, Year	Study design	Aim of study	Sample size	Data source, sample time frame, location	Population characteristics	Comparison group (if any)	Risk factor(s) measured	Method of measurement of risk factor(s)	Length of follow-up/ observa- tion time	Statistical analysis methods/ Control for confounding	Results
Bell 2010 ²⁰	Case control	Determine the association between prior injury, alcohol, and mental health disorder hospitalizations and independent predictors for suicide	1873 suicides and 5619 controls	Total Army Injury and Health Outcomes Database, included army casualty (death) files, inpatient hospital data from the Army Individual Patient Data system and personnel records from the Defense Manpower Data Center	Suicides between 1/1/1990 and 12/31/2003	Suicides compared to controls (controls selected on a 3:1 ratio to cases using the incident suicide date to identify eligible controls based on active-duty status at the time of the suicide)	Demographics, hospitalization experiences (ICD), mental health related hospitalizations, alcohol related diagnoses and non-alcohol related mental health disorders. Service grade, officer status (warrant, commissions)	ICD-9 codes	N/A	Logistic regression: 1) all hypothesized risk factors included; 2) interaction terms for injury, alcohol and mental disorder hospitalizations with each of the other background variables in the model	Adjusted analyses (adjusted OR, 95% CI) for suicide: Protective factors include: time in service (0.97, 0.95-0.99); black vs white (0.64, 0.56-0.74); college education vs none (0.69 0.55-0.87); warrant office status (0.48, 0.25-0.94); and commissioned officer status (0.66, 0.47-0.93). Risk factors include: male gender (2.73, 2.12-3.55); prior injury hospitalization (2.04, 1.64-2.54); prior alcohol hospitalization (3.41, 2.32-4.99); and mental disorder hospitalization (6.62, 4.77-9.20). Significant interactions for: alcohol and mental disorder and injury hospitalization (0.16, 0.15-0.53); mental disorder, alcohol and injury (5.99, 1.45-24.80); and injury and mental disorder (16.07, 3.75- 68.77).
Brenner 2011 ²¹	Cross- sectional	Examine the association between TBI and suicide among individuals receiving care through the VHA	Case control study with 81 cases and 160 matched controls (92 cases had only 1 control)	Cases of suicide death/ suicide attempt were identified between October 2004 and February 2006	Patients who received care from the VAMC and had an EMR note documenting a suicide attempt. Archival data from a large western VAMC. Where possible, two possible patients per case were randomly selected from 3,239 potential patients (chart review to confirm absence of suicide attempt or death).	Controls matched for age and gender, chart review confirmed no suicide in the control group. In two cases only 1 control could be identified vs 2.	PTSD, TBI, neurologic disease	Key word search of the chart	N/A	Conditional logistic regression, controlling for age and gender	Univariate analyses: TBI and neurologic conditions were not significantly associated with suicide attempt/death (OR 1.03; 95% CI, 0.57-1.86 for TBI and OR 0.38; 95% CI, 0.08-1.80 for neurologic diseases). PTSD was associated with suicide attempt (OR 2.79; 95% CI, 1.53-5.07). In the model that included both PTSD and TBI, TBI was NS (OR 0.87; 95% CI, 0.47- 1.61) but PTSD remained significant (OR 2.85; 95% CI, 1.55-5.22).
Brenner 2011 ²²	Cross- sectional	Examine the association between TBI and suicide among individuals receiving care through the VHA	49,626 with TBI plus a 5% random sample of patients without TBI (n=389,053)	Individuals who received care within the VHA between 2001- 2006	All patients with TBI (n=49,626) plus a 5% random sample of patients without TBI (n=389,053). Of those with TBI, 105 died by suicide.	Those with TBI compared to those without TBI	Substance abuse, bipolar disorder I/II, MDD, other depression, other anxiety, PTSD, schizophrenia/ schizoaffective disorder, age, gender	TBI identified by ICD-9 codes, according to most severe diagnosis. Discharge diagnoses that included epilepsy were excluded.	N/A	Models adjusted for demographic and psychiatric covariates	Veterans with TBI were 1.55 (95% CI, 1.24- 1.92) times more likely to die by suicide than those without a history of TBI, after controlling for psychiatric comorbidities. Any TBI adjusted HR: 1.55 (95% CI, 1.24- 1.92) Concussion/fracture HR: 1.98 (95% CI, 1.39-2.82) Cerebral contusion/traumatic intracranial hemorrhage: HR 1.34 (95% CI, 1.09-1.64)

Author, Year	Study design	Aim of study	Sample size	Data source, sample time frame, location	Population characteristics	Comparison group (if any)	Risk factor(s) measured	Method of measurement of risk factor(s)	Length of follow-up/ observa- tion time	Statistical analysis methods/ Control for confounding	Results
Cox 2011 ²³	Cross- sectional	Identify gender differences among those admitted for suicidal thoughts and behaviors	656 (465 admitted for suicidal thoughts and 191 for suicidal behaviors)	Random sample of EMRs from patients admitted to large US Army hospital for suicide-related thoughts or behaviors from 2001-2006	Demograph- ics not reported separately for the suicidal behaviors group. Overall 36% women, 61% white, 37% married. Men were more likely to have high school or equivalent as highest educational level, have military rank of E4-6, and have a diagnosis of adjustment disorder. Women were more likely to have un- known educational attainment, be black, and have no military rank (retired or dependent).	Men vs women	Childhood trauma (including sexual abuse, physical abuse, neglect, domestic violence, unspecified trauma), adult trauma (including sexual assault, physical assault, emotional and psychological abuse, military combat, pregnancy loss, unspecified trauma), and number of types of trauma	Chart review	N/A	Regression analyses. 2 sets: Set 1) adjusted for age, race, education, income, military rank, marital status, MDD, dysthymic disorder, bipolar disorder, bipolar disorder, PTSD, substance or alcohol abuse/ use disorder, adjustment disorder and ≥3 lifetimes psychiatric disorders; Set 2) all the above plus other trauma types	For those admitted with suicide-related behaviors, there were no differences between men and women after adjustment for all types of trauma (Set 2).
Desai 2005 ²⁴	Prospective cohort	Identify risk factors for suicide among psychiatric inpatients	121,933 individuals; 481 suicides within 1 year of discharge	All patients discharged with a diagnosis of major affective disorder, bipolar disorder, PTSD, or schizophrenia from psychiatric inpatient units in the VA system between 1/1/1994 to 12/31/1998	94% male, 68% white, 44% previously married, 52% not service connected. 25% with alcoholism, 11% with substance abuse, 40% with schizophrenia, 19% with bipolar disorder, 27% with depression, 29% with PTSD.	Suicides vs non-suicides among all discharges from VA inpatient psychiatric unit.	Administrative data available from the patient treatment file: age, race, marital status, service-connected disabil- ity status, year of inpatient discharge, type of discharge (community or institution), distance from home to near- est VAMC, and psychiatric diagnosis. Six variables about care delivery: length of stay, readmission, total number of inpatient days in the 6 months after discharge, whether patient had an outpatient visit in 6 months after discharge, and number of 2-month periods in the 6 months following discharge in which the patient had 2 outpatient visits for primary discharge diagnosis. Facility-level variables and social environment variables (community level).	Individual risk factors: from the patient treatment file Delivery-of -care variables: from the patient treatment file and the outpatient care file (database of all VA outpatient care) Facility-level variables: source not reported. Social environment variables: statewide adjusted suicide rates from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention mortality reports; minority population from Census Bureau.	12 months following discharge	Calculated suicide rate for each facility. Expected mortality rates were calculated using multivariate logistic regression adjusting for age, gender, race, disability, distance to the VAMC, year of discharge, diagnosis and discharge to the community. Individual variables assessed using Poisson regression.	Quality of care measures associated with suicide mortality among patients discharged from VA inpatient psychiatric programs. (Rate Ratio, p-value): Length of stay: <7 days: 1.41, p<0.04 ≥7-14 days: 1.33, p<0.03; ≥14-30 days: 1.11, p=0.048 <u>Time to readmission:</u> 14 days: 0.81, p=0.26 30 days: 0.79, =0.13 180 days: 0.55, p=0.0001 Inpatient days in 6 months: 1.01, p=0.0001 Outpatient visit within 30 days: 1.04, p=0.75 Outpatient visits in 6 months: 1.00, p=0.37 <u>Continuity of care (reference 3):</u> 0: 1.06, p=0.84 1: 1.59, p<0.03 2: 1.01, p=0.97

Author, Year	Study design	Aim of study	Sample size	Data source, sample time frame, location	Population characteristics	Comparison group (if any)	Risk factor(s) measured	Method of measurement of risk factor(s)	Length of follow-up/ observa- tion time	Statistical analysis methods/ Control for confounding	Results
Hartl 2005 ¹⁴	Prospective cohort	Identify patients at high risk for negative behavioral outcomes including suicide attempts	620 in total sample; 409 in the development cohort and 221 in the validation cohort	Intake surveys and clinical diagnostic interviews	630 male Veterans with a primary PTSD diagnosis who consecutively entered the residential treatment program for PTSD at the Palo Alto VA between July 1994 and December 2000. Patients referred to the program by medical and mental health staff in the Pacific Northwest. Mean age 50 (SD 4.55, range 256-76). 60% Caucasian, 13% Hispanic, 90% Vietnam era Veterans, 86% had served in combat. 72% had a history of incarceration.	Validation cohort was 2/3 of the overall sample (n=221)	Suicide attempt in past 4 months and ever, BDI score, substance use, demographics, combat history	Variables obtained from intake questionnaires: age, ethnicity, education, marital status, history of incarceration. Suicide attempts assessed with survey: 1) in lifetime, and 2) in last 4 months. Structured clinical interview for the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fourth Edition (DSM- IV), including alcohol, cannabis, and hard drugs (cocaine, amphetamine, opioid dependence)	4 months	Sensitivity and specificity calculated in the replication sample. Used receiver operating characteristic curves to classify people as high/ low risk.	"The single best predictor of a suicide attempt after discharge was having attempted suicide in the 4 months prior to intake (χ^2 [df1,296]=15.03, p<0.001). Among those who had not attempted suicide shortly before intake, the next optimal predictor was patients' BDI scores (BDI ≥46 vs <46): χ^2 (df1252)=10.54, p<0.001. Sensitivity for this model calculated at 0.63, with a specificity of 0.80."
llgen 2007 ²⁸	Prospective cohort	Develop a model of risk and protective factors for clinical prediction of future suicide attempt	8807	Cohort of 13,870 patients who received the ASI within 2 weeks of treatment entry into 1 of 149 non-methadone psychosocial facilities in the US; of these 64% provided follow-up data on the ASI an average of 13 months later and are included in the analysis. Additional follow-up data were derived from interviews and self-report assessments.	Mean age: 47 years (SD 9.6). Mean years of education: 13 (SD 2) 96% male 59% Caucasian; 32% African American; 5% Hispanic/Latino; 4% other race/ethnicity. 21% married 38% reported full- time employment	Suicides vs non-suicides in this cohort	Individual items on the ASI as candidate risk factors.	Baseline: ASI Follow-up: ASI plus interview Treatment factors included: 1) number of days of contact with a substance use disorder treatment provider, and 2) number of days of contact with a psychiatric provider	1 year	MacArthur Model – a series of mixed-model logistic regression analyses including main effects of each pair of candidate risk factors and their interaction	314 of 8807 patients (3.6%) reported a suicide attempt within the 30 days prior to their follow-up assessment. 33 items from baseline and 1 treatment factor identified as significant in univariate analyses. OUTCOME: suicide attempt approximately 1 year after entering substance use disorder treatment (assessed as attempt within 30 days prior to assessment). <u>Risk factors:</u> Elevated suicidal/psychiatric symptoms (value=0.73, t-value=10.62, p=0.001); alcohol problems (value=0.02, t-value=3.70, p=0.001); cocaine-adjusted life years (value=0.02, t-value=4.14, p=0.001) <u>Protective factors:</u> Criminal justice system involvement (value=-0.60, t-value=3.60, p=0.001); substance use disorder treatment participation (number of days): (value=-0.08, t-value=5.36, p=0.001)

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ligen 2009 ²⁷	Longitudinal	Develop and validate a decision tree using recursive partitioning	887,859 VA patients treated for depression (diagnosis of depres- sion and treatment with antide- pressant, or diagnosis of depression during two separate visits) be- tween April 1, 1999 and September 30, 2004. 1892 sui- cides (ICD-9 and NDI). Of 887,859 patients, 589,825 randomly selected for primary/ development sample and 298,034 selected for the replica- tion sample.	VA's National Registry for Depression (NARDEP) linked to the NDI, April 1, 1999 to September 30, 2004. NDI queries were submitted for all those with date of death in the study period according to VA Beneficiary Identification and Records Locator System; also initiated NDI searches for patients who did not use VA services in the year following the study period even if there was no date of death for these patients in VA data system.	Primary cohort (n=589,825): Age: 58.62 years (SD 14.38) 91.9% male Race/ethnicity: 76.4% White; 12.4% Black; 2.2% Other; 9.0% Unknown; 4.7% Hispanic. Substance use: 22.1% PTSD: 22.1% Inpatient psychiatric stay in past 12 months: 3.6% Service connection: 31.6% No significant difference between primary and secondary cohorts	Suicide vs non-suicde	Derived from patient records: age, race, sex, substance use disorder diagnosis, diagnosis of PTSD, prior VA hospitalization for any psychiatric diagnosis in the year prior to cohort entry, service connection, and baseline medical comorbidity (sum of all conditions in the past year included in the Charlson Comorbidity Index)	Derived from patient records, not further described	Study period was April 1, 1999 through September 30, 2004. Assessment of risk fac- tors could have been done at any time. Suicide deaths were assessed during the study period and in the year follow- ing the study period.	Bayesian Dirichlet Equivalent methods for identification of the strongest predictor - data mining process to examine possible higher-order relationships between predictors	Overall suicide 89.55/100,000 person-years (PYs) in the primary sample of depressed Veterans. <u>Among depressed VA patients with</u> <u>substance use disorder</u> African Americans were significantly less likely to die by suicide than individuals of any other race. In African Americans with substance use disorder, no other variables reliably distinguished those who did vs those who did not die by suicide. In non-African Americans, having been admitted to inpatient psychiatric treatment at least once in the prior 12 months conferred an additional risk for suicide vs those with no psychiatric admission (247.21/100,000 PYs). <u>Among depressed VA patients without</u> <u>substance use disorder</u> sex was the strongest indicator of suicide risk: 82.08/100,000 PYs for men vs 26.22/100,000 PYs for women. In women, no other available risk factors reliably identified individuals at differing levels of risk. In men, race was related to suicide risk: African American men 33.30/100,000 PYs vs non-African American men 86.78/100,000. The replication sample confirmed that the groups defined by the development cohort significantly discriminated suicides from non-suices. <u>OR from the primary cohort (95% CI):</u> Any substance use disorder: 2.0 (1.8-2.2) Non- African Americans with substance use disorder and any inpatient psychiatric treatment in past 12 months: 2.0 (1.6-2.5) Men without substance use disorder: 2.9 (2.0-4.2) Non- African American men without substance use disorder: 2.6 (1.8-3.8)

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llgen 2010 ²⁵	Prospective cohort	Examine the strength of association between psychiatric diagnoses and risk of suicide	All Veterans who used VA services dur- ing FY 1999 (n=3,291,891) who were alive at the start of FY 2000	CDC's NDI data and VA National Patient Care Database	90% male Age: 18-29: 4.1% 30-39: 8% 40-49: 17.1% 50-59: 21.5% 60-69: 19.8% 70-79: 23% ≥80: 6.5% Any psychiatric diagnosis: 25.6% Any substance abuse or dependence: 10% Alcohol abuse or dependence: 8.5% Drug abuse or dependence: 5.7% Bipolar disorder: 2.9% Depression: 14.5% Other anxiety: 7.3% PTSD: 6.3% Schizophrenia: 4.1%	Those with suicide during follow-up period vs those without suicide	Any psychiatric diagnosis, substance abuse or dependence, alcohol abuse or dependence, drug abuse or dependence, bipolar disorder, depression, other anxiety, PTSD, and schizophrenia	All psychiatric diagnoses were based on ICD-9 codes given during a visit in FY 1998 or FY 1999. Categories were not mutually exclusive (patients could have multiple diagnoses).	Observa- tion period began the first day of FY 2000 and ended the last day of FY 2006 or the date of suicide	Data censored on date of death for those who died from causes other than suicide dur- ing the observa- tion period. Conducted a series of propor- tional hazards regression models for each variable of interest, then used covariance sandwich estima- tors to adjust for clustered data (nested within VHA facilities); then proportional HR models ex- amined the HR of suicides for each diagnosis individu- ally, adjusted for age group and stratified by sex.	Suicide mortality was 11.6/100,000 PYs for women and 40.9/100,000 PY for men. 70% had any psychiatric diagnosis at baseline. Age-adjusted HR (95% CI) for Suicide During FY 1999 to FY 2006 in all VHA patients treated in FY 1999 who were alive at the start of FY 2000: <u>Male:</u> Any psychiatric diagnosis: 2.50 (2.38-2.64) Any substance abuse or dependence: 2.27 (2.11-2.45) Alcohol abuse or dependence: 2.28 (2.12- 2.45) Drug abuse or dependence: 2.09 (1.90- 2.31) Bipolar disorder: 2.98 (2.73-3.25) Depression: 2.61 (2.47-2.75) Other anxiety: 2.10 (1.94-2.28) PTSD: 1.84 (1.70-1.98) Schizophrenia: 2.10 (1.93-2.28) <u>Female:</u> Any psychiatric diagnosis: 5.18 (4.08-6.58) Any substance abuse or dependence: 6.04 (4.14- 8.82) Drug abuse or dependence: 5.33 (3.58- 7.94) Bipolar disorder: 6.33 (4.69-8.54) Depression: 5.20 (4.01-6.75) Other anxiety: 3.48 (2.52-4.81) PTSD: 3.50 (2.51-4.86) Schizophrenia: 6.08 (4.35-8.48)

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ligen 2010 ²⁹	Prospective cohort	Determine the association between self- reported pain severity and suicide among Veterans	260,254 total cohort - identified 903 as having died by suicide	FY 1999 LHSV, VA medical records, and suicide deaths identified by the NDI during FY 1999-FY 2006. Patients had to have usable data from the LHSV, be alive at the start of FY 2000 and be included in at least one of the following data sources: National Psychosis Registry, NARDEP; or a random sample of all patients who used VA services in FY 1999 who were not part of other registries. 31,716 were in the National Psychosis Registry and 104,516 were in the NARDEP; of these, 16,074 were in both – these duplicates were eliminated. Data on 120,158 individuals merged with 140,096 from the random sample.	94.68% male Age: <50 years: 19% 50-64: 33% ≥65: 48% Race: 75% White; 13% Black; 12% Other. Married/ cohabitating: 56% Education: Not a high school graduate: 26% High school through some college: 32% College graduate: 42%. Smoker: 32.5% Mean MCS-12 score: 37.8 (SD 13.7) Mean Physical Component Summary-12 score: 33.2 (SD 11.2) For psychiatric and medical comorbidities, see Table 2 of the article.	Suicides vs non-suicides	Risk Factors: Pain: measured with a single question on the LHSV – "how much bodily pain have you had during the past 4 weeks?" (from the SF-36). Other factors: demographics (age, gender, race), diagnosed psychiatric comorbidities, educational status, smoking, marital status, medical diagnosis by ICD-9. Outcome: death by suicide, defined by the presence of any of the following ICD-10 codes as NDI cause of death from 2000- 2006: X60- X84, Y87.0 (McCarthy, 2009). ⁴⁷	ICD-9 codes for psychiatric diagnosis and medical diagnosis	Deaths evaluated from FY 2000 (October 1, 1999) to FY 2006 (September 30, 2006) – total of 7 years	Cox proportional hazards regression	Multivariate results for suicide, HR (95% CI): Demographics: Age \geq 65 vs <50: NS Age 50-64 vs <50: NS Male gender: 2.14 (1.46-3.14) Black race vs white: 0.33 (0.25-0.44) Other race vs white: 0.75 (0.61-0.92) Not a high school graduate: NS High school graduate/some college: NS Smoker: 1.71 (1.48-1.97) Psychiatric Comorbidity: Schizophrenia: 1.52 (1.24-1.86) Bipolar disorder I or II: 1.53 (1.22-1.92) Depression: 1.27 (1.10-1.46) Other anxiety: 1.28 (1.07-1.54) Drug use disorder: NS Medical Comorbidity: Diabetes: 0.66 (0.53-0.82) Complicated diabetes: NS Cerebrovascular disease: 0.66 (0.47-0.91) Cancer: NS Other: MCS-12: 0.98 (0.97-0.99) Physical Component Summary-12: NS Severe pain vs moderate or less pain: 1.33 (1.15-1.54)

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ligen 2010 ²⁶	Prospective cohort	Examine the demographic and clinical predictors of violent and nonviolent suicide among patients with substance use disorders compared to non-suicide controls	Total n= 5082 854 Suicides and 4229 patients who did not die by suicide during the study period selected randomly.	VA medical records and the NDI. Included VA patients with substance use disorders who were alive at the beginning of FY 2002 and died by suicide during FYs 2002- 2006 (n=854) and a random sample of 4228 substance use disorder patients who did not die by suicide during this period.	97% male 28% Black; 58% White; 14% Unknown/other. Age: 18-44 years: 22% 45-64 years: 66% ≥65 years: 11.5% Region: 22.4% Northeast; 30% South; 26% Central; 21.5% West	Random sample of substance use disorder patients who did not die by suicide was the comparison group for both violent suicide and non-violent suicide	Gender, age, race, region, mental conditions (major depression, other anxiety disorder, bipolar disorder, PTSD, schizophrenia, personality disorder, to or more psychiatric disorders), and substance use disorders (alcohol, cocaine, cannabis, opiate, amphetamine, barbiturate, multiple/other)	ICD-9 codes for substance use disorders and mental diagnoses. Demographic information from the databases. Diagnosis of substance use disorder was defined as patients who received two or more diagnoses of the same substance use disorder from FYs 1997-2001.	4 years	Logistic regression controlling for gender, race, age, and region.	OR (95% CI) for violent suicides (VS) and non-violent suicides (NVS), compared to those who did not commit suicide: <u>Mental conditions:</u> Major depression: VS 2.09 (1.75-2.50); NVS 4.94 (2.99-5.19) Other anxiety disorder: VS 1.87 (1.55-2.25); NVS 3.26 (2.51-4.25) Bipolar disorder: VS 1.62 (1.32-2.00); NVS3.18 (2.42-4.18) PTSD: VS 1.33 (1.10-1.62); NVS 2.23 (1.70-2.92) Schizophrenia: VS 1.49 (1.20-1.84); NVS 2.57 (1.94-3.40) Personality disorder: VS 1.56 (1.27-1.92); NVS 2.63 (2.00-3.45) Two or more psychiatric disorders: VS 1.93 (1.60-2.34); NVS 3.83 (2.72-5.37) <u>Substance use disorders:</u> Alcohol: VS (NS); NVS 0.71 (0.53-0.94) Cocaine: VS 0.62 (0.46-0.83); NVS (NS) Cannabis: NS for both Opiate: VS (NS); NVS 1.67 (1.08-2.60) Amphetamine: NS for both Barbiturate: NS for both Multiple/other: VS 0.80 (0.67-0.98); NVS 1.48 (1.13-1.93)
Kaplan 2007 ³⁰	Prospective cohort	Assess the risk of mortality from suicide among male Veteran participants in a large population- based health survey	104,026 Veterans; 216,864 non- Veterans	Data from the 1986-94 National Health Interview Survey. People from the 50 states and Washington DC who were not institutionalized. Suicide data from the Multiple Cause of Death file (1986-97) through the NDI.	Veterans vs Non- Veterans Age: 18-44: 25% vs 70% 45-64: 45% vs 20% ≥65: 30% vs 9% Male: 95% vs 38% White: 85% vs 74% Not white: 14% vs 23% At least one psychiatric condition: 1.5% vs 2.0%	Non-Veterans from the same survey	Age, marital status, living arrangement (alone or with others), race, education, employment status, region of residence, place of residence, BMI, number of chronic non-psychiatric medical conditions, number of psychiatric conditions, self-rated health, and activity limitations	Self-report	12 years	Cox proportional hazards model adjusting for demographic characteristics, socioeconomic factors and health	Risk factors for suicide, Adjusted HR (95% CI): Age (years): NS Race – white vs non-white: 3.23 (1.75-5.88) Marital status: NS Living alone (vs with others): NS Education ≥12 years vs <12 years: 2.67

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Mahon 2005 ³¹	Retrospective case control	Examine risk factors for suicide among regular-duty military personnel	63 suicides and 63 age and gender matched controls drawn from a cohort of 732 deaths among regular-duty Army, Navy, Air Corps, and special forces personnel. Regression done only on 33 firearms deaths and matched controls.	732 deaths of regular- duty military personnel in the Irish Defense Forces between 1970 and 2002	63 suicides; regression done only on 33 firearm suicides that all used military firearms	Suicides were compared with a randomly age-gender matched non- suicide death (excluded deaths that were "open" i.e., accidental deaths, drownings)	Demographics, details of the suicide	Cause of death (suicide outcome) was determined by examination of the proceedings of Courts of Inquiry and medical records. Variables regarding details of the suicide were obtained from military files which include inquest/ autopsy reports, toxicology/forensic reports, and eye- witness/family/ colleague reports.	N/A – ret- rospective analysis of factors knowing the actual outcome (suicide)	Logistic regression controlling for variables suggested in bivariate analyses and factors that were clinically or occupationally associated with suicide (all listed, but those included are not specifically reported)	3 variables accounted for 84.2% of the variation in the data and 83.3% of the firearm suicides (χ^2 (df2)=1.0, p<0.001): Psychiatric illness or history of deliberate self-harm (OR 0.00; 95% Cl, 0.00-8.3x10 ³³), performing morning duty (OR 12.6; 95% Cl, 2.78-57.3), and a recent medical downgrading (OR =27,766.31; 95% Cl, 0.00-1.17x10 ⁵⁸).
Pettit 2006 ⁴²	Cross- sectional	Examine the moderating effects of very early onset diagnostic status (<13 years) upon the association between life events and non-fatal suicide attempt	298 patients with suicidality	Two outpatient clinics, a 20- bed inpatient facility and an emergency room, all affiliated with US Army Medical Center	Mean age: 22.22 years 82.2% male 62.8% Caucasian	Those with prior self- reported suicide attempt compared to those without	Negative life events using Life Experiences Survey, Modified Scale for Suicidal Ideation, current and past psychiatric diagnoses by the Diagnostic Interview Schedule, incorporating DSM-III-R criteria, and past suicide attempt	Clinical interview	N/A	Logistic regression – one for each of the mental health variables: very early onset bipolar disorder, very early onset MDD, and very early onset anxiety; controlled for age in all; life events as interaction term	OR (95% CI), in the model with age, negative life events and very early onset bipolar disorder, and the interaction term for very early onset bipolar disorder x negative life events: Age: NS Negative life events: NS Very early onset bipolar disorder: NS Negative life events x Very early onset bipolar disorder: 0.88 (0.78-0.99) Very early onset bipolar disorder moderates the association between negative life events and suicide attempts – lower levels of negative life events among attempters with no history of very early onset bipolar disorder. Excluding patients with very early onset bipolar disorder, negative life events was marginally significant for predicting suicide attempts: OR 1.30 (95% CI, 1.02-1.65) Neither very early onset bipolar disorder nor very early onset anxiety moderated the association between life stress and suicide attempt.

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Pfeiffer 2009 ³²	Prospective cohort	Examine whether depressed Veterans with comorbid anxiety had higher risks of suicide deaths	887,889 patients with depression; 1892 suicide deaths	A national database of US Veterans in depression treatment (NARDEP) linked to NDI; April 1, 1999 to September 30, 2004	Age: 18-44 years: 16.1% 45-64 years: 50.1% ≥65 years: 33.8% 91.9% male 76.5% white 22.1% with substance abuse disorder	None	Any anxiety disorder PTSD Anxiety disorder NOS Panic disorder Generalized anxiety disorder Social phobia OCD Any other anxiety disorder Ever prescribed anxiety medication Ever prescribed high dose anxiety medication	Treatment and administrative records, pharmacy database records	5.5 years	Logistic regression analysis; adjusted for gender, age, race, ethnicity, marital status, and presence of a substance use disorder	Predictors of suicide among depressed Veterans, Adjusted OR (95% CI): Any anxiety disorder: 1.07 (0.98-1.18) PTSD: 0.87 (0.77-0.97) Anxiety disorder (not otherwise specified): 1.25 (1.12-1.38) Panic disorder: 1.26 (1.04-1.53) Generalized anxiety disorder: 1.27 (1.09- 1.47) Social phobia: 0.59 (0.29-1.18) OCD: 1.10 (0.73-1.67) Any other anxiety disorder: 1.05 (0.85-1.29) Ever prescribed anti-anxiety medication: 1.71 (1.55-1.88) Ever prescribed high dose anti-anxiety medication: 2.26 (1.98-2.57)
Pinder 2011 ³³	Cross- sectional	Assess lifetime prevalence of suicide and self-harm within currently serving and ex-service personnel of the UK Armed Forces, and associations with socio- demographics, service history and mental health	821	Telephone interview, U.K.	Personnel who had previously participated in the King's Centre for Military Health Research military health study (4.7% reported prior suicide attempt) – initial recruitment via mailing, stratified by serving status (regular/reserve) and deployment status (first phase Iraq or not), oversampled for those reporting psychological distress	Self-reported intentional self-harm vs. none	PHQ, Primary Care Post- Traumatic Disorder Screen, 2000 Adult Psychiatric Morbidity Survey questions about suicide	Self-report	N/A	Adjusted OR using STATA with weighted percentages: adjusted for age, gender, marital status, educational status, engagement type, rank at interview, service, length of service, serving status at interview, experience of deployment to Iraq, and number of childhood adversity factors	Adjusted OR (95% CI) for intentional self- harm (adjusted for age. serving status and childhood adversity): PTSD or PHQ diagnosis: 4.65 (1.91-11.33) Any PHQ diagnosis: 4.14 (1.75-9.81) Any depressive syndrome: 3.08 (1.08-8.78) Any anxiety syndrome: NS Alcohol abuse: NS Somatization disorder: 3.65 (1.20-11.03) PTSD: 8.48 (2.73-26.33) Adjusted OR (95% CI) for intentional self- harm (adjusted for age. educational status, engagement type, rank, service, serving status, and childhood adversity): Serving status at interview – left service vs serving: 2.82 (1.08-7.34) Age at interview: 0.94 (0.87-1.00) (p=0.042) Childhood adversity (vs 6-16 factors): 0.11 (0.04-0.33) for 0-1 factors; 0.19 (0.07-0.52) for 2-3 factors; and NS for 4-5 factors NS: Experience of deployment to Iraq, rank at interview, service (Navy, Army, Royal Air Force), length of service, educational status, and engagement type

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Roy 2011 ³⁴	Retrospective case control	Examine whether resilience might be a protective factor in relation to suicidal behavior	20 cases who attempted suicide; and 20 controls who did not attempt sui- cide (matched on age and Childhood Trauma Questionnaire score)	100 consecu- tive abstinent substance-de- pendent patients who completed the Connor- Davidson Re- silience Scale, who were seen in the Substance Abuse Treat- ment Program at the Department of VA New Jer- sey Health Care System, East Orange Cam- pus. Identified 20 substance abuse patients who had at- tempted suicide	Met DSM-IV criteria for substance dependence and were abstinent when studied. Excluded those with lifetime history of schizophrenia, other psychosis, or mental retardation.	20 substance abuse patients who had not attempted suicide, matched on age and Childhood Trauma Question- naire score	Resilience measured by the Connor-Davidson Resilience Scale score	Psychiatric inter- view conducted by a psychiatrist about socio- demographic variables, sub- stance depen- dence history, and lifetime history of suicide attempt. Supplemented by collateral informa- tion from program staff, medical records, program internist and physicians assis- tant, and treating mental health professional.	N/A	Matched on age and Childhood Trauma Questionnaire score; t-tests and chi-square	20 patients who had never attempted suicide had significantly higher Connor- Davidson Resilience Scale scores than the 20 age and Childhood Trauma Questionnaire matched patients who had attempted suicide: mean Connor-Davidson Resilience Scale score 63.61 (SD 20.44) vs 47.55 (SD 18.14), p<0.0123.
Seyfried 2011 ³⁵	Longitudinal	Assess predictors of suicide and means of completion in patients with dementia	294,952	VA National Care Patient Database, NDI, and outpatient VA pharmacy records, from FY 2001- 2005, in VA healthcare settings	Patients aged ≥60 years old who had been diagnosed with dementia in VA healthcare settings between FY 2001 and FY 2005	N/A	Demographics (gender, marital status, race, and age), psychiatric disorders (PTSD, any anxiety disorder, depression, any personality disorder, any substance use disorder [except nicotine dependence], schizophrenia, and bipolar disorder), medical comorbidity, healthcare utilization, psychiatric prescription medication use.	ICD-9 codes and ICD-10 codes, Charlson Comorbidity Index	N/A	Bivariate analyses – chi-square tests of independence, multivariate logistic regression models	Adjusted analyses predicting suicide (adjusted OR, 95% CI): Risk factors: White 1.49 (1.14-1.95) Depression 2.04 (1.45-2.85) Anti-anxiety medication 1.98 (1.48-2.65) Antidepressant medication 2.11 (1.57-2.84) Protective factors: inpatient psychiatric hospital stay 2.31 (1.54-3.46) inpatient nursing home stay 0.33 (0.14- 0.75)

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Thomsen 2011 ³⁶	Cross- sectional	Examine whether deployment increases risky or self-destructive behavior and whether deployment effects on risky behavior varied depending on history of pre-deployment risky behavior; and to assess whether psychiatric conditions mediated effects of deployment on risky behavior	2116	August 2006- August 2007; Survey of active duty military personnel serving at US Marine Corps installations in Southern California and Arizona	Mean age: 24.1 years (SD 5.3) 92% male Ethnicity/race not reported 58% had been combat deployed	None	Combat deployment, prior engagement in risky behavior, mental health issues	Self-report, anonymous survey	Cross- sectional	Logistic regression; demographic variables, prior high-risk behavior, combat deployment	Results of logistic regression analyses predicting current suicide attempt, Adjusted OR (p-value NS unless specified): Male: 0.58 Older age: 0.97 Higher rank: 0.76 Higher education: 1.23 Navy (vs Marines): 0.79 Single: 0.78 Divorced/Separated/Widowed: 3.90 (p<0.01)
Tiet 2006 ³⁷	Cross- sectional	Examine the associations between sexual and physical abuse and recent suicide attempts among men	34,245	VA database July 1997 to September 1997, 150 VA facilities across the US	Patients seeking treatment for substance use disorders, other psychiatric disorders, or both	Those with suicide attempt in past 30 days vs those without.	Demographics (age, education, race, marital status), psychiatric diagnoses (psychotic disorder, depressive disorder, PTSD, anxiety disorder, alcohol abuse/ dependence, drug abuse/ dependence, personality disorder), suicide attempts over the past 30 days and during lifetime, sexual abuse in the past 30 days and during lifetime, and physical abuse in the past 30 days and during lifetime	ASI administered by trained interviewers	N/A	Bivariate analyses, multivariate logistic regression analyses; adjusted for sexual and physical abuse (lifetime and past 30 days), psychiatric disorders, alcohol/ drug abuse, age, marital status	Multivariate logistic regression analysis of suicide attempts in the past 30 days among men seeking treatment for substance use disorders. psychiatric disorders or both (adjusted OR; 95% CI): sexual abuse in past 30 days (2.08; 1.26-3.43), physical abuse in past 30 days (2.38; 1.83-3.10), lifetime sexual abuse before past 30 days (1.33; 1.10-1.61), lifetime physical abuse before past 30 days (NS), psychotic disorder (1.48; 1.28-1.73), depressive disorder (2.38; 2.07-2.74), PTSD (1.37; 1.19-1.57), anxiety disorder (1.45; 1.26- 1.67), alcohol abuse/dependence (NS), drug abuse/dependence (NS), personality disorder (1.74; 1.50-2.01), older age (0.97; 0.96-0.98), married (NS)

Author, Year	Study design	Aim of study	Sample size	Data source, sample time frame, location	Population characteristics	Comparison group (if any)	Risk factor(s) measured	Method of measurement of risk factor(s)	Length of follow-up/ observa- tion time	Statistical analysis methods/ Control for confounding	Results
Valenstein 2009 ³⁸	Longitudal	Determine higher- risk periods for suicide among VA patients receiving depression treatment	887,859	VA patients receiving antidepressant treatment between April 1, 1999 and September 30, 2004	Mean age: 58.6 years (SD 14.4) 91.9% male 76.5% white; 12.4% black; 2.1% other (Asian, American, Native, Pacific Islander, multiracial); 9.0% unknown race; 4.7% Hispanic	None	Time period (in five sequential 12-week periods following treatment events), age, gender, race, ethnicity, marital status, diagnosis of a substance abuse disorder, PTSD, and service connection	Data from VA's NARDEP. Not specified how data were collected.	60 weeks following their last treatment event of interest, date of death, or end of study (September 30, 2004), whichever came first	Poisson regression model used to fit piecewise exponential models, with generalized estimating equations to allow for correlation within patients when multiple episodes of treatment events were included in the analyses. RRs calculated after adjusting for age, gender, race, ethnicity, marital status, diagnosis of a substance use disorder, PTSD, and service connection.	Time period was significantly associated with suicide following all treatment events (P<0.001). <u>RR (95% Cl) for first compared to second</u> <u>12-week periods:</u> Following psychiatric hospitalizations: 1.9 (1.5-2.4) Following new antidepressant starts: 1.8 (1.5-2.1) Following other antidepressant starts: 1.8 (1.4-2.3) Following dose changes: 1.4 (1.1-1.8) Following "any antidepressant regimen change": 1.8 (1.5-2.1) Following "any treatment event": 1.8 (1.6- 2.1)

Author, Year	Study design	Aim of study	Sample size	Data source, sample time frame, location	Population characteristics	Comparison group (if any)	Risk factor(s) measured	Method of measurement of risk factor(s)	Length of follow-up/ observa- tion time	Statistical analysis methods/ Control for confounding	Results
Yerevanian 2007 (Part 2) ⁴⁰	Prospective cohort	Examine the association between pharmacotherapy (mood stabilizers and antidepressants) and suicide among individuals diagnosed with bipolar disorder receiving care through the VHA	405	Computerized Patient Record System, January 1, 1994 to December 31, 2002, VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System	Patients with pharmacy records of lithium, divalproex, carbamazepine, gabapentin, topiramate, and lamotrigine dispensed from January 1, 1994 to December 31, 2002; who were given a chart diagnosis of bipolar disorder type I or type II, schizoaffective disorder bipolar type, or bipolar disorder not otherwise specified; who received ≥6 months of care for bipolar disorder by an attending psychiatric physician with a chart documentation of inquiry about suicidal behavior by the psychiatrist	N/A	Demographics (gender, age), diagnoses (bipolar I disorder, bipolar II disorder, schizoaffective disorder, schizoaffective disorder, schizoaffective disorder, schizoaffective disorder, schizoaffective disorder, schizoaffective stabilizer monotherapy, (mood stabilizer monotherapy, antidepressant monotherapy, mood stabilizer combined with an antidepressant), outcomes (suicide, suicide attempts, hospitalization for suicidal intent)	Assumed DSM-IV diagnostic criteria, "suicidal behavior life chart" to track medications received and occurrence of suicidal behavior events	Followed for a mean of 3 years	Generalized linear regression model, with (log) number of events as dependent measures, medication status as independent variable, and (log) total time observed as an offset variable specifying Poisson error. This method models the rates (events/ [time at risk]) as an exponential function of medication status.	Comparison of suicidal behavior during mood stabilizer therapy vs mood stabilizer combined with antidepressant: χ^2 =8.71, df=1; p=0.003 Suicidal behavior during mood stabilizer monotherapy compared with antidepressant monotherapy: On Lithium: χ^2 =19.14, df=1; p=0.0001 On Divalproex: χ^2 =14.4, df=1; p=0.0001 On mood stabilizer monotherapy: χ^2 =29.87, df=1; p<0.0001 Suicidal behavior event rates during antidepressant and/or mood stabilizer therapy in bipolar patients who received all three treatments, Rate (all events/100 PY): On mood stabilizer + antidepressant: 23.72 On antidepressant alone: 38.18 Note: 1 suicide in the mood stabilizer + antidepressant group; none in the others. 5 attempted suicides among the mood stabilizer + antidepressant group; 7 attempted suicides in the antidepressant monotherapy group and none in the mood stabilizer monotherapy group.
Author, Year	Study design	Aim of study	Sample size	Data source, sample time frame, location	Population characteristics	Comparison group (if any)	Risk factor(s) measured	Method of measurement of risk factor(s)	Length of follow-up/ observa- tion time	Statistical analysis methods/ Control for confounding	Results
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Yerevanian 2007 (Part 3) ³⁹	Prospective cohort	Examine the association between pharmacotherapy (mood stabilizers and antipsychotics) and suicide among individuals diagnosed with bipolar disorder receiving care through the VHA	405	Computerized Patient Record System, January 1, 1994 to December 31, 2002, VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System)	Patients identified with pharmacy records of lithium, divalproex, carbam- azepine, gabapentin, topiramate, and lamotrigine dispensed from January 1, 1994 to December 31, 2002; who were given a chart diagnosis of bipolar disorder type I or type II, schizoaffective dis- order bipolar type, or bipolar disorder not otherwise specified; who received ≥6 months of care for bipolar disorder by an attending psychi- atric physician with a chart documentation of inquiry about suicidal behavior by the psychiatrist	N/A	Demographics (gender, age), diagnoses (bipolar I disorder, bipolar II disorder, schizoaffective disorder, bipolar disorder not otherwise specified), pharmacotherapy (mood stabilizer monotherapy, antipsychotic monotherapy, mood stabilizer combined with an antipsychotic), outcomes (suicide, suicide attempts, hospitalization for suicidal intent)	Assumed DSM-IV diagnostic criteria, "suicidal behavior life chart" to track medications received and occurrence of suicidal behavior events	Followed for a mean of 3 years	Rates of events calculated by medication status over total time observed. Rates were then compared using a generalized linear regression model, with (log) number of events as dependent medication status as independent variable, and (log) total time observed as an offset variable specifying Poisson error. This method models the rates (events/ [time at risk]) as an exponential function of medication status.	Non-lethal suicide event rates were 9.4 times greater (χ^2 =28.29; p<0.0001) during antipsychotic monotherapy and 3.5 times greater during mood stabilizer + antipsychotic therapy (χ^2 =15.13; p=0.0001) than during mood stabilizer monotherapy.
Zivin 2007 ⁴¹	Longitudinal	Report clinical and demographic factors associated with suicide among Veterans diagnosed with depression	807,694	VA's NARDEP linked to VA Medicare Data Merge Initiative and the NDI, April 1, 1999 to September 30, 2004	Patients with a diagnosis of a depressive disorder and who had been prescribed an antidepressant, or patients with two medical visits that resulted in the diagnosis of depressive disorders during the study period	N/A	Demographics (gender, race, ethnicity [Hispanic or not], age, region of treatment location), diagnoses (depression, PTSD, substance abuse), inpatient psychiatric hospitalization, Charlson Comorbidity Index (for physical comorbidities), and service connection	Unclear	N/A	Unadjusted suicide rates; adjusted suicide rates (by age, gender, race, ethnicity, and psychiatric and substance abuse comorbidity status); estimated suicide rate using crude mortality and estimated HRs using Cox proportional hazards regression models; estimated adjusted HRs and 95% CI	Adjusted analyses (adjusted OR, 95% CI): Protective factors include: woman vs man (0.35, 0.26-0.47), black vs white (0.24, 0.19-0.30), Hispanic vs not (0.47, 0.35-0.63), age 265 vs age 18-44 (0.85, 0.73-0.99), age 45-64 vs age 18-44 (0.74, 0.64-0.84), PTSD diagnosis vs not (0.77, 0.68-0.87), service connection vs not (0.76, 0.66-0.87), central region vs South (0.80, 0.71-0.96), Northeast region vs South (0.80, 0.71-0.91). Non-significant factors include Charlson score ≥1 vs 0 (0.95, 0.86-1.01), West region vs South region (0.92, 0.81-1.01). <i>Risk factors include:</i> any substance use (1.74, 1.55-1.96), previous inpatient stay for psychiatric disorder in last 12 months (1.92, 1.61-2.28). When adding interaction terms for PTSD x age ≥65 and PTSD x age 45-64, PTSD is no longer a significant protective variable for suicide. Only other changes with this model: age ≥ 65 no longer significant.

APPENDIX L. RISK OF BIAS RATINGS FOR PRIMARY STUDIES OF FACTORS TO PREDICT SUICIDAL SELF-DIRECTED VIOLENCE IN MILITARY AND VETERAN POPULATIONS^a

Study, Year	1. Adequate description of population	2. Non-biased selection	3. Low loss to follow-up/ missing data adequately described?	4. Adequate/ unbiased risk factor measurement?	5. Adequate/ unbiased outcome measurement?	6. Was the sample size adequate (including adequate number of outcome events)?	7. Adequate statistical adjustment	8. Number of required confounders adjusted for in analysis (X of 4)	Overall assessment of potential for bias Low/Unclear/High	External validity
Belik 2009 ¹⁸	Unclear - but previously reported	Yes - CCHS-CFS data	Unsure - no information on missing data	Unsure - face-to- face interview	Unsure - self-report	Yes - N=8441	Yes - lifetime mental disorder diagnosis	1 of 4	Unclear	Canadian armed forces personnel
Belik 2010 ¹⁹	Yes	Yes - CCHS-CFS is a representative sample of active Canadian armed forces personnel; CCHS 1.2 is a nationally representative sample of individuals age ≥15 years	Unsure - no information on missing data	Partially - clinical interview for mental health diagnosis; self-report for alcohol use	Unsure - self- report: asked the following question on survey: have you "attempted suicide or tried to take [your] own life in the past 12 months?"	Yes - N=36,984 civilians, 8441 armed forces personnel	Yes - mental disorders, alcohol dependence	2 of 4	Unclear	Canadian armed forces personnel
Bell 2010 ²⁰	Yes	1873 identified suicides from data sources: Total Army Injury and Health Outcomes Database, all death files and inpatient hospital data from the Army Individual Patient Data System, and personnel records from Defense Manpower Data Center	Unsure - missing data not reported	Unsure - ICD-9 codes from hospital and Army personnel records	Yes - death records for suicide	Yes - N=1873 cases, 5619 controls	Yes - mental disorder and alcohol disorder	2 of 4	Unclear	US Army soldiers who committed suicide within 120 days of post- military discharge
Brenner 2011 ²¹	Yes	Yes - all cases included and random selection for controls with replacement where necessary	Unsure - unknown number of suicides were missed because they were not identified by the VA database	Yes - keyword search of the medical records for identification of risk factors, specifically PTSD, TBI and neurologic disease; described in detail	Yes - similar assessment to risk factors: keyword search plus chart review by licensed clinical psychologist	Yes - N=81 cases, 160 controls	Matched on age and gender, all had mental health diagnosis (PTSD)	1 of 4 (PTSD)	Unclear	US Veterans receiving mental health services
Brenner, 2011 ²²	Yes - Table 1 lists age and gender, and the rates of TBI (all), concussion, and cerebral contusion/ intracranial hemorrhage	Yes - identified by ICD-9 codes for diagnosis of TBI and TBI-related diagnoses, excluding epilepsy	Unsure - no information on missing data	Unsure - based on ICD-9 codes, but unknown number of missed cases of TBI due to underdiagnosis	Yes - based on ICD- 9 codes	Yes - 105 suicide deaths	Cox proportional hazards survival models for time to suicide; adjusted for psychiatric comorbidities (among other factors)	1 of 4 (any mental health disorder)	Unclear	People who received VA inpatient or outpatient healthcare services
Cox 2011 ²³	Yes - 32.9% of women vs 9% of men did not have rank; therefore considered retired or dependent	Yes - random sample of charts from those admitted with suicidal thoughts or behaviors	Unclear - missing data not reported	Unsure - chart review only, but trained coders assessed reliability	Yes - patients were admitted to a psychiatric unit for suicidal thoughts or behaviors	Yes - N=465 with suicidal thoughts, 191 with suicidal behaviors	Yes - MDD, other psychiatric diagnoses, substance or alcohol abuse	2 of 4	Unclear	Patients admitted to a US army hospital

Study, Year	1. Adequate description of population	2. Non-biased selection	3. Low loss to follow-up/ missing data adequately described?	4. Adequate/ unbiased risk factor measurement?	5. Adequate/ unbiased outcome measurement?	6. Was the sample size adequate (including adequate number of outcome events)?	7. Adequate statistical adjustment	8. Number of required confounders adjusted for in analysis (X of 4)	Overall assessment of potential for bias Low/Unclear/High	External validity
Desai 2005 ²⁴	Yes	Yes - all patients discharged with one of four diagnoses in a 4-year period	Unclear - missing data not reported	Unsure	Yes - NDI and ICD- 9 codes to identify suicide deaths	Yes - N=121,933	Yes	2 of 4 (psychiatric diagnosis, including substance abuse)	Unclear	Psychiatric inpatients from US VA hospitals
Hartl 2005 ¹⁴	Yes - 630 male Veterans with PTSD who consecutively entered the residential rehabilitation program for PTSD at the Palo Alto VA between July 1994 and December 2000	Yes - consecutive admissions	Unsure - missing data not reported, but used information typically collected at the outset of most treatment programs	Unsure - questionnaires at intake, meant to be generalizable to other programs. However, the questionnaires themselves were not described or cited. Did not report how patients' war zone trauma exposure was collected. Treatment-related variables are likely to be most accurate for readmissions to this program, less so for admissions from other programs.	Unsure - self-report; violent behavior and suicide attempts assessed with items from the Northeast Program Evaluation Center Survey	Yes - N=630, 8.1% attempted suicide (n=50)	Yes - chi square only, but given that they have already controlled for psychiatric diagnosis by including only patients with PTSD who were entering substance abuse treatment, this is adequate	3 of 4	Unclear	Veterans diagnosed with PTSD entering residential rehabilitation program for substance abuse
llgen 2007 ²⁸	Yes	Yes - assessed all patients at entry into VA substance use disorders program, no exclusion criteria used	No - enrolled only those who completed follow- up (n=8807) from 13,870 total enrolled	Yes - used ASI, standardized measure. Trained all providers on administration and then required all patients to complete at intake.	Unsure - self- reported suicide attempt in past 30 days	Yes - N=8807	Yes - was entirely a substance use disorder population; assessed 35 risk factors and included 5 in the final model	4 of 4 (details of substance use, psychiatric diagnoses, suicidal ideation, prior suicide attempts - last 3 felt to be proxies for each other and therefore combined into one variable)	Unclear	Veterans enrolled in substance use disorder programs
llgen 2009 ²⁷	Unclear - limited characteristics reported (gender, race, substance abuse, PTSD, service connection, inpatient psychiatric stay in past 12 months), age not reported	Unclear - used data from a specified time period and had inclusion criteria, but not clear if all patient data were reviewed for eligibility	Unsure - does not report how many of the final analytic cohorts were missing variables	Unsure - chart review (possible inaccuracies in race; 9% unknown race, for example), assume most risk factors determined by ICD-9 code	Yes - suicide outcome was confirmed by NDI and they were careful to query even those patients without a death date but who did not receive VA services in following year	Yes - N=1275 suicide deaths	Yes - substance abuse and mental health	2 of 4 (assessed depressed population only; additional factors: PTSD, psychiatric admission, substance use disorder. No report of suicidal ideation or prior attempts.)	Unclear	US VA patients treated for depression

Study, Year	1. Adequate description of population	2. Non-biased selection	3. Low loss to follow-up/ missing data adequately described?	4. Adequate/ unbiased risk factor measurement?	5. Adequate/ unbiased outcome measurement?	6. Was the sample size adequate (including adequate number of outcome events)?	7. Adequate statistical adjustment	8. Number of required confounders adjusted for in analysis (X of 4)	Overall assessment of potential for bias Low/Unclear/High	External validity
llgen 2010 ²⁵	Yes	Yes - database; all patients in a specified time period	Unsure - no information on missing data	Unsure - all risk factors determined by ICD-9 code; they were careful to design the study such that risk factors were assessed prior to the outcome	Yes - NDI	Yes - N=7684 suicide deaths	Yes - proportional hazard regression, adjusted for substance abuse and mental health	2 of 4	Unclear	Veterans seeking services tend to have poorer general physical and mental health functioning than the US population. Rank, socioeconomic status and time since military discharge may be important and were not examined.
llgen 2010 ²⁹	Yes	Yes - LHSV was mailed to a national random sample of Veteran enrollees; RR not reported	Unsure - no information on missing data	Unsure - medical records review; used ICD-9 diag- nostic codes for psychiatric diagno- ses and substance use disorders; self-report for pain outcomes and SF-36	Yes - NDI data	Yes - overall sample size N=260,254	Yes - substance abuse and mental health	2 of 4 (all had substance use disorder)	Unclear	US Veterans
llgen 2010 ²⁶	Yes	Yes - LHSV was mailed to a national random sample of Veteran enrollees; RR not reported	Unsure - no information on missing data	Unsure - chart review only; ICD-9 for psychiatric and substance use disorder diagnoses	Yes - NDI data	Yes - N=854	Yes - substance abuse and mental health	2 of 4	Unclear	US Veterans with substance use disorder
Kaplan 2007 ³⁰	Yes	Yes - used all data from a population-based health survey	Unsure - missing data not reported; unclear if missing outcome, demographic, or risk factor data on some of the population	Yes - number of psychiatric conditions ascertained based on ICD-9 codes	Yes - objective measures used (NDI, ICD-9 codes)	Yes - N=320,000; 104,026 Veterans; 197 suicide deaths in Veterans	Yes - had at least one psychiatric condition (and other factors)	1 of 4 (number of psychiatric conditions)	Unclear	Veterans, males only (too few women to include in analysis); various service areas
Mahon 2005 ³¹	No - some characteristics reported, but not demographics	Yes - reviewed all causes of death for all personnel active during the study period	Partly - excluded open-verdict deaths (drowning, train accidents, and single-vehicle road traffic accidents; 5.2% of deaths were drowning and 18.7% were road traffic accidents)	Unsure - assume data (e.g. psychiatric diagnosis) collected from military files but not described	Unsure - military files and proceedings of Courts of Inquiry were reviewed by the investigators to determine cause of death	Yes - N=63 suicide deaths (overall sample 732 deaths)	Yes - bivariate analysis; con- founders includ- ed psychiatric diagnosis, his- tory of deliberate self-harm, and recent psychiat- ric assessment	2 of 4 (psychiatric diagnosis, past history of deliberate self- harm)	Unclear	Irish Defense Forces

Study, Year	1. Adequate description of population	2. Non-biased selection	3. Low loss to follow-up/ missing data adequately described?	4. Adequate/ unbiased risk factor measurement?	5. Adequate/ unbiased outcome measurement?	6. Was the sample size adequate (including adequate number of outcome events)?	7. Adequate statistical adjustment	8. Number of required confounders adjusted for in analysis (X of 4)	Overall assessment of potential for bias Low/Unclear/High	External validity
Pettit 2006 ⁴²	Yes	Unclear - no data on consecutive recruitment	Unsure - design of study ensured that all data were complete	Unclear - licensed professionals did assessments using standard measures. No information on whether they were blinded to past suicide attempts.	Unsure - self-report suicide attempts	Yes - 41.8% reported a non-fatal suicide attempt prior to entry in the program	Yes - all patients had suicidality. They evaluated specific mental health diagnoses in the setting of suicidality.	2 of 4 (suicidality and mental health diagnosis)	Unclear	Moderate - these were patients at a US Army Medical Center, so could include spouses and dependents of military personnel
Pfeiffer 2009 ³²	Yes	Yes	Unsure - no information on missing data is reported	Unsure - comorbid anxiety disorders and substance use disorders obtained from clinical and administrative records, but unclear about content or blinding of raters	Yes - suicide mortality determined from cause of death contained in NDI	Yes - N=1892 suicide deaths	Yes	2 of 4 (anxiety disorders and substance use disorders)	Unclear	US Veterans with depression
Pinder 2011 ³³	Yes	Yes	Unsure - 24% (262/1083) were not surveyed due to declining to participate (10%), could not be traced (15%) or unavailable for interview (2%). Noted no evidence of response bias in response to health, but did not provide details of how this was determined.	Unsure - self-report via questionnaire and clinical interview	Unclear - self- reported self-harm	Yes - 80/821 had a history of a suicide attempt	No - univariable analysis of factors including mental health diagnosis and substance abuse, but, did not simultaneously adjust for required confounders.	1 of 4 (psychological distress – childhood adversity)	High	UK armed forces personnel, 70% of whom reported psychological distress as defined by a score of 4 or more on the 12-item general health questionnaire
Roy 2011 ³⁴	Yes	Unsure if 53 who had never completed the Childhood Trauma Questionnaire were systematically different from those that had	Yes - only included those who completed the Childhood Trauma Questionnaire	Unsure - self-report supplemented by collateral information from clinicians and medical records	Unsure - self- reported history of suicide attempt via psychiatric interview by study psychiatrist; supplemented by collateral information from clinicians and medical records	No - although 41 patients had attempted suicide, only possible to match 20 cases with 20 controls for analysis	Unsure - assessed resilience in population of abstinent substance abuse patients matched for childhood trauma; but did not adjust further	1 of 4 (all had substance abuse)	High	Abstinent substance abuse patients who were seen in the Substance Abuse Treatment Program at the Department of VA in New Jersey and had attempted suicide

Study, Year	1. Adequate description of population	2. Non-biased selection	3. Low loss to follow-up/ missing data adequately described?	4. Adequate/ unbiased risk factor measurement?	5. Adequate/ unbiased outcome measurement?	6. Was the sample size adequate (including adequate number of outcome events)?	7. Adequate statistical adjustment	8. Number of required confounders adjusted for in analysis (X of 4)	Overall assessment of potential for bias Low/Unclear/High	External validity
Seyfried 2011 ³⁵	Yes - age >60 years with dementia identified by ICD-9	Yes - all patients diagnosed with dementia between FY 2001-05 identified in the VA National Care Patient Database; dementia diagnosis identified by ICD-9	Unsure - not reported. 294,952 patients; 241 suicide deaths. No description of how many people were excluded from the overall eligible sample.	Yes - medical records for demographics, ICD-9 codes for diagnosis of dementia, psychiatric and medical comorbidities	Yes - suicide deaths identified by NDI and ICD-10 codes	Yes - 241 suicide deaths in cohort of 294,952 patients with dementia	Yes - controlled for psychiatric comorbidities, age, sex, race, marital status, medical comorbidities, healthcare utilization and medication use	1 of 4 (psychiatric illness)	Unclear	Veterans with dementia who are ≥60 years old
Thomsen 2011 ³⁶	Yes	No - attendance at survey recruiting sessions was based on commander referral and availability within training schedule	Unsure - included only those who provided data on their deployment and answered at least 7 or 8 questions on risky behavior. Missing data from 19%; did not report whether missing data differed between groups.	Partly - risky behavior was self- reported via an anonymous written survey. Combat deployment status was determined by record of combat pay (objective).	Unsure - outcome was risky behavior, including attempted suicide; determined by self-report on an anonymous survey	Yes - 7% of sample reported a suicide attempt (148/2116)	Yes	2 of 4 (prior self- harm or suicide attempt, any mental health diagnosis)	Unclear	US military personnel; active duty, mean age 24 years, 92% male
Tiet 2006 ³⁷	Yes	Yes	Yes - regression analysis included data from 97% of males (32,271/33,236)	Partly - Sexual and physical abuse: Unclear due to use of face-to- face interview, but with a validated questionnaire (ASI). Psychiatric diagnoses: Yes, accessed nationwide VA database to obtain diagnoses made by experienced clinicians during usual care.	Unsure - self- reported suicide attempt in the past 30 days	Yes - overall 33,236 men; 1120 attempted suicide in past 30 days	Yes	2 of 4 (mental health diagnosis, substance abuse)	Unclear	US Veterans seeking treatment for psychiatric disorders; 99% had substance use disorder; mean age 47 years; main findings based on data from males (too few females to include in analysis)
Valenstein 2009 ³⁸	Yes	Yes - all patients in the database receiving an antidepressant during the study timeframe	Unsure - no information on missing data	Yes - ICD-9 codes for depression and substance abuse disorder from the registry	Yes - used NDI data and did a sensitivity analysis in which deaths of undetermined intent were considered suicides	Yes - overall sample size over 887,000; 1346 suicides	Yes	2 of 4 (all had depression; adjusted for substance abuse disorder and PTSD)	Unclear	US Veterans receiving treatment for depression; mean age 59 years, 92% male

Study, Year	1. Adequate description of population	2. Non-biased selection	3. Low loss to follow-up/ missing data adequately described?	4. Adequate/ unbiased risk factor measurement?	5. Adequate/ unbiased outcome measurement?	6. Was the sample size adequate (including adequate number of outcome events)?	7. Adequate statistical adjustment	8. Number of required confounders adjusted for in analysis (X of 4)	Overall assessment of potential for bias Low/Unclear/High	External validity
Yerevanian 2007 (Part 2) ⁴⁰	Yes - identified all patients getting any prescription for lithium, divalproex, carbamazepine, gabapentin, topiramate and lamotrigine during study period; identified subjects then had to have chart diagnosis of bipolar disorder and ≥6 months of clinical care for bipolar disorder and chart documentation of inquiry about suicidal behavior by the psychiatrist	Yes - non-biased selection within the group that was defined as the population of interest	Unclear - completeness of data not described	No - all diagnoses based on chart review; medications from pharmacy data. Patients were not randomly assigned to medications and there was no accounting for severity of illness, provider preference, etc. in the analysis.	No - chart review of psychiatrist documentation about suicidal behavior	Unsure - N=405	No - see notes under #4	1 of 4 (since all patients were bipolar the study essentially accounted for the mental health diagnosis and could assess other risk factors within this population)	High	US Veterans with bipolar disorder in Southern California
Yerevanian 2007 (Part 3) ³⁹	Yes - identified all patients getting any prescription for lithium, divalproex, carbamazepine, gabapentin, topiramate and lamotrigine during study period; identified subjects then had to have chart diagnosis of bipolar disorder and ≥6 months of clinical care for bipolar disorder and chart documentation of inquiry about suicidal behavior by the psychiatrist	Yes - non-biased selection within the group that was defined as the population of interest	Unclear - completeness of data not described	No - all diagnoses based on chart review; medications from pharmacy data. Patients were not randomly assigned to medications and there was no accounting for severity of illness, provider preference, etc. in the analysis.	No - chart review of psychiatrist documentation about suicidal behavior	Unsure - N=405	No - see notes under #4	1 of 4 (since all patients were bipolar the study essentially accounted for the mental health diagnosis and could assess other risk factors within this population)	High	US Veterans with bipolar disorder in Southern California

Study, Year	1. Adequate description of population	2. Non-biased selection	3. Low loss to follow-up/ missing data adequately described?	4. Adequate/ unbiased risk factor measurement?	5. Adequate/ unbiased outcome measurement?	6. Was the sample size adequate (including adequate number of outcome events)?	7. Adequate statistical adjustment	8. Number of required confounders adjusted for in analysis (X of 4)	Overall assessment of potential for bias Low/Unclear/High	External validity
Zivin 2007 ⁴¹	Yes - data from the VA's NARDEP database. FY 1997 forward; linked to VA Medicare Data and NDI.	Yes - all patients with a diagnosis of depression and an antidepressant prescription, or had two medical visits with diagnosis of depressive disorders during the study period	Unsure - reported that patients with missing data for key covariates were excluded from all analyses, but details only provided for 9% excluded due to missing race data. 1,500,000 starting; with 807,694 satisfying inclusion/ exclusion criteria.	Unsure - information on substance abuse diagnosis, diagnosis of PTSD, and prior VA psychiatric hospitalization obtained from the VA's NARDEP database, but details of coding process and blinding of raters was not described. Race data is excluded from analyses because it was unreliably documented.	Yes - suicides identified from NDI database based on ICD-10 codes, compiled from death certificates	Yes - N=807,694	Yes - present adjusted HR with PTSD x age interaction	3 of 4 (substance abuse, history of PTSD, inpatient psychiatric stay)	Unclear	Individuals receiving treatment for depression in the US VA health system

^a Risk of Bias tool modified from Hayden et al. 2006 and Harris et al. 2001.^{9,10}

APPENDIX M. PEER REVIEW COMMENTS AND AUTHOR RESPONSES

Reviewer	Comment	Response
Question 1	. Are the objectives, scope, and methods for this revie	w clearly described?
2	The concerns addressed in answers 2 and 3 could,	We have revised and expanded the description of scope and methods section to provide a
	perhaps, have been addressed with a more complete	more detailed explanation of the EBPWG requests.
	discussion of objectives, scope, and methods.	
2	Moreover, the text does not describe how issues	Statistical power for studies of predictive tools and variables is included in the quality (risk
	of statistical power of the studies reported was	of bias) assessment. In this report, we use the following question in our quality (risk of bias)
	addressed.	assessment for each study: "Was the sample size adequate (including adequate number of
		outcome events)?" was part of our quality (risk of bias) assessment for each study – see
		Appendix K. We have also added additional detail in the Methods section to make this clearer.
2	Nor does it address the potential problems and pitfalls	We briefly addressed the limitations of suicide attempts as outcomes in that section of
	in the identification of suicide attempts as outcomes.	results, but have added identification of suicide attempts to the Limitations section of the
		report as well, to further emphasize that issue.
3	Within the review it is stated that key questions 3	We established the scope of this report with the EBPWG. Because non-VA literature is
	and 4 were considered but not addressed because of	less directly applicable to the VA and DOD populations than literature that reports on data
	the adequate volume of evidence identified for the	from Veteran and military populations, those studies constitute a weaker body of evidence,
	first two questions; however, based on the outcomes	given the focus of this review. Along with the EBPWG, we agreed that a detailed look
	(limited recommendations) I am not sure I concur.	at the strongest body of evidence would be most helpful and that a summary of prior
		systematic reviews for non-vA populations would suffice. Therefore, we have removed reference to questions 3 and 4 (non-Vateran and non-military populations) from the report
		since it was confusing to readers
6	For the most part, these are described well. I was	Since it was confusing to readers.
	confused by the Table of contents listing 4 key	
	questions, but only 2 of them appearing in the	
	Executive Summary. I think you need to explain in	
	the Executive Summary why you did not address KQs	
	3 and 4. You may want to explicate further what you	
	mean by finding a sufficient volume of evidence to not	
	do KQ 3 and 4	
Question 2	. Is there any indication of bias in our synthesis of the	evidence?
2	The reasons provided in the draft document for not	See above.
	addressing questions 3 and 4 do not make sense.	
	Ignoring these questions appears to reflect some	
	unspecified goals.	

Reviewer	Comment	Response
7	Unsure about why some questions were not addressed	See above.
Question 3	. Are there any <u>published</u> or <u>unpublished</u> studies that	t we may have overlooked?
1	The AJPH March 2012 issue on suicide- a study by Bossarte on attempters might be useful.	We agree that this issue provides potentially valuable information on suicide among Veteran and military populations; however the publication date puts it out of the scope of this systematic review. While not identified systematically nor quality rated, it cannot be included in this report. However, we reviewed the Bossarte et al. study informally: They assessed age, gender, race, mental health status and social/emotional support as risk factors for self- reported suicide attempts on the BFSS. A report of depression, anxiety or PTSD carried an adjusted OR of 21.7 (CI 5.6-84.3); no other factors were significant. Even if included, this study would not add significantly to or change the conclusions of our current report.
2	The rationale for starting the literature review in 2005 is not clearly defined. Basing it on the Mann review does not make sense because that review does not address assessment instruments or risk factors. Basing it on the Gaynes review does not make sense because that publication reviewed relevant literature only until 2002.	The Mann review does review assessment tools. We have clarified the scope and this decision as being based on EBPWG request for the strongest and most directly applicable recent literature on Veterans and members of the military (given the existing literature on civilian populations through such reports as Mann, Gaynes, NICE 2011, Brown, and Goldston). Additionally, we have further summarized the information obtained from other, similar systematic reviews throughout the report to present a more comprehensive review of the literature.
2	It may be useful to include information from merged data on Veterans utilizing VHA services and the NDA, or from VA records on suicide attempts.	Per follow-up discussions with our stakeholder group, we will not include these unpublished data in this report, but the CPG may choose to make use of such raw data as appropriate.
3	Would highly consider adding: information and discussion regarding warning signs (Risk factors are very helpful in terms of understanding behaviors at a population-based level. The field is moving towards warning signs [individualized thoughts/behaviors] that precipitate SDV	We have added a discussion of warning signs in the Future Directions section.
3	Would consider adding non-Veteran/military data.	We have clarified the scope and this decision was based on EBPWG request for recent literature on Veterans and members of the military (given the existing literature on civilian populations through such reports as Mann, Gaynes, NICE 2011, Brown, and Goldston). Additionally, we have further summarized the information obtained from other, similar systematic reviews throughout the report to present a more comprehensive review of the literature.
4	Helpful information might exist in the work of the VA National Center for Patient Safety, which is not included in this report (for obvious reasons). It might be useful to point this out and refer readers to NCPS	Per follow-up discussions with our stakeholder group, we will not include such data in this report, but the CPG may choose to make use of such raw data as appropriate.

Reviewer	Comment	Response
6	I was slightly surprised that you did not find	We did not find any articles evaluating the PHQ-9 that met our inclusion criteria. We
	manuscripts linking Patient Health Questionnaire	have added a discussion of the PHQ-9 and recent literature on the PHQ-9 with regard to
	(PHQ) item scores and suicide behavior or ideation.	suicidality to the Recommendations for Future Research section of this report.
	The PHQ-9 th item specifically asks about suicidal	
	ideation. A lot of studies have been done using the	
	PHQ in recently yearsyou may want to consider do	
	some additional very focused search for manuscripts	
	written about the PHQ and possible suicide-related	
	outcomes.	
7	The rationale for starting the literature review in 2005	We have clarified the scope and this decision was based on EBPWG request for recent
	does not make sense.	literature on Veterans and members of the military (given the existing literature on civilian
		populations through such reports as Mann, Gaynes, NICE 2011, Brown, and Goldston).
		Additionally, we have further summarized the information obtained from other, similar
		systematic reviews throughout the report to present a more comprehensive review of the
		literature.
7	I think there are unpublished VA reports that could	Per follow-up discussions with our stakeholder group, we will not include these unpublished
	have been solicited.	data in this report, and the CPG may choose to make use of such raw data as appropriate.
Question 4	. Please write additional suggestions or comments bel	ow. If applicable, please indicate the page and line numbers from the draft report.
1	In discussing mental health diagnosis as a potential	We have added this point to the limitations section.
	risk factor, it might be helpful to differentiate	
	clinician-generated MH diagnosis versus those from	
	administrative or existing data- as getting a diagnosis	
1	in the chart might indicate treatment engagement	
1	Some of the NDI studies involving national VA	While this may be true in some studies, we anticipate that there are low numbers of
	databases included VA users, who may not all be	non-veterans included in the VA databases and it may not be possible to identify them
	Veterans (i.e. some non-veterans received care at	individually. Additionally, these people are still members of the veteran community, which is
	VA facilities). It would be important to note this	a population of interest in these studies.
2	distinction.	We have not site that the Construction of December and the tank and the tank of tank of the tank of the tank of ta
5	Previous section and include citations:	we have now cited both Crosby and Brenner articles on the topic, and clarified terminology
	Throughout document would change "Completed	However we use terms (e.g. suiside attempt) as they were reported in the mimory studies in
	Suicide" which sounds like a positive event to "Death	rowever, we use terms (e.g., suicide attempt) as they were reported in the primary studies in order to provide accurate information from these studies
	by Suicide"	

Reviewer	Comment	Response
3	Evidence Report – Page 1, some of citations at bottom	We acknowledge that the introduction to this report cites some studies that are not from
	of page (e.g., are non military/VA sources) this is not	military or Veteran populations. This section is meant to explain that there are factors derived
	clear from reading the text.	from military experience that have reasonable likelihood of contributing to increased suicide
		risk. We have added a citation for TBI that includes Veteran population (Brenner, 2011).
3	Figure 1 and 2 – Known risk factors don't always lead	We have added wording to the Future Research section to acknowledge that warning signs
	to distal health outcomes (at least directly) – this is	may signify a more immediate state of risk than traditional risk factors which reflect a state
	where adding warning signs may be helpful	of overall heightened risk.
3	Systematic Reviews – page 12 – it may be helpful to	In this section, we specifically describe the risk of bias due to lack of assessor blinding
	explain how or why using chart data (PAI scores) that	as related to chart review methods for assessment of suicide attempts. This outcome is
	were entered by the patient before the attempt would	potentially influenced by lack of assessor blinding because of it is not as objective or clearly
	be biased?	defined as a test score that is included in a patient's chart. We agree that chart review along
		for determination of a previously collected assessment tool score would carry a low risk of
		bias for that outcome.
3	Summary and Discussion – Page 24 – it is not clear	We have added a statement describing the risk of bias for this study.
	that the limitations of the Hendin study are sufficiently	
	highlighted (Citation 10)	
3	Summary and Discussion – Page 24 – is the ASI still	We have corrected this information throughout the report.
	nationally implemented? – it was my understanding	
	that it was replaced	
3	Summary and Discussion – Page 24 – would be	We have added this information.
	important to clarify that the PAI study was only with	
	veterans who had IBIs.	
3	Summary and Discussion – Page 25 – would be	We have added citations to the Summary and Discussion section.
	helpful to have citations in attempt and suicide	
	paragraphs.	
4	I don't have much to add. I think the synthesis is	Noted.
	very timely since many clinicians and administrators	
	continue to search for an instrument or set of variables	
	(or think we know) that some interpretions and	
	(or think we know) that some interventions are	
	userul for the entire population but suit struggle with	
5	The executive summary has a few types n2 line 29	We have made these corrections
5	information about anosificity is missing in 4 line 0 the	we have made these confections.
	normation about specificity is missing, p4. line 9 the	
	name of the instrument being discussed is missing;	

Reviewer	Comment	Response
5	p5. line 21 (and elsewhere in the article) the term	The term "religious terror" comes directly from the article that assessed this risk factor
	"Religious Terror" is very confusing – what does it	(Belik 2009). It is the variable name associated with the question: "Have you ever lived as a
	mean?	civilian in a place where there was ongoing terror of civilians for political, ethnic, religious,
		or other reasons?" We have clarified this in the text and table.
6	I think you need to confirm your nomenclature	We have now cited both Crosby and Brenner articles on the topic, and clarified terminology
	matches new national VA standards on nomenclature	throughout, including removal of the term "completed" throughout the entire report.
	related to suicide behaviors. This nomenclature	However, we use terms (e.g., suicide attempt) as they were reported in the primary studies in
	should be acknowledged early and clearly—a table	order to provide accurate information from these studies.
	may help. The document currently does not use the	
	nomenclature consistently.	
6	Related to above, it is unclear to me if suicidal	See above; we have clarified terminology related to outcomes and state that suicidal self-
	ideation is considered an outcome you looked at-	directed violence, but not suicidal ideation, outcomes were included in this report.
	what behaviors were and weren't included?	
6	Since you did not include studies that were included	We have added a more comprehensive summary from this Mann report as well as from the
	in the prior Mann review, it would be important and	Gaynes and NICE 2011 Self-Harm reports.
	helpful to know (briefly) what the findings were from	
	that review and compare and contrast them—did we	
	learn anything new and what did we learn?	
6	You should briefly define reclassification analysis.	We have done this in the Summary and Discussion under KQ#1.
6	In the descriptions in the text of individual studies, I	Thank you. We have taken this comment into account in our edits of the main report and also
	would like to know just a bit more about the design/	the Executive Summary
	structure of the study, in particular overall design	
	(e.g. prospective cohort) and how long patients	
	were followed. At the same time, in the Executive	
	Summary I think you have more detail on the specific	
	studies than you need.	
6	In the Executive Summary, I would include the names	We have made this change.
	of the actual measures, not just the abbreviations in the	
	subsections describing studies that used those measures.	
6	On page 2 of the main document, you say that	We have provided additional information on the estimates from the Gaynes article; included
	available evidence suggests that only 4% of people	these because they demonstrate the difficulties with developing assessment tools for rare
	identified as high risk in primary care are truly at	outcomes.
	riskyou reference the Gaynes study. To my	
	recollection this 4% figure is the result of an estimate	
	using a best case scenario—you may want to review	
	and restate.	

Reviewer	Comment	Response
6	I think your analytic models are overly detailed (e.g.	We have condensed these into one overall model, and have kept the amount of detail to be
	intake form, specific types of pharmacotherapy or	consistent with the Suicide Prevention Interventions report.
	psychotherapy). For me these detract a bit from the	
	overall models and flow and don't add much	
6	For KQ2 you write that 2 studies were of limited	4 of the 26 studies identified for KQ2 had high risk of bias and were cited and not reviewed
	quality—but which two?—you report that 3 of the	further.
	studies had methodological flaws with high risk of	
	bias	
6	In your recommendations (and perhaps other places	We have made this recommendation throughout the report.
	earlier) I would suggest you address need for briefer	
	screens (or comment on how long/brief the screens are	
On action 5	you recommend for further testing.	ana suslita increase and massing motions consists on conformation that will be
Question 5	b. Are there any clinical performance measures, progr	ams, quality improvement measures, patient care services, or conferences that will be
	No. In the absence of a review of instruments that	We have undeted the report to include a more in death summary of existing accessment
2	are promising on the basis of studies in the similar	literature on givilian populations from the Mann. Gaunes, NICE 2011, Brown, and Coldston
	nopulation the report has limited utility. It should	reports
	not be used to guide clinical performance measures	reports.
	programs quality improvement measures, patient care	
	services or conferences	
3	Would think this would impact current practices.	Noted.
4	Suicide prevention is quite prominent across many	Noted.
	programs in VA and DoD.	
5	Indirectly, we will continue to educate stakeholders	Noted.
	on the lack of data to support the use of specific risk	
	assessment instruments.	
6	VA Office of Mental Health—Suicide Prevention	Noted.
	VISN 19 MIRECC	
	Canandaigua Center of Excellence	
Question 6	Question 6. Please provide any recommendations on how this report can be revised to more directly address or assist implementation needs.	
1	It would be helpful for the field to know what are the	We agree that this is an important goal.
	best available algorithms of suicide risk, and perhaps	
	develop a risk model for clinicians to use to identify	
	patients in their panel at highest risk) (e.g. through	
	the PACT COMPASS).	

Reviewer	Comment	Response
1	In addition, the VA has rolled out the PHQ-9 which	We have updated the assessment section to include information on the PHQ-9, though we did
	includes a question on suicidal ideation- some	not find any studies on this assessment tool that met inclusion criteria. We included PHQ-9 in
	additional research on its utility in predicting suicide	the Discussion.
	would be helpful.	
2	Address question 3	We have updated the report to include a more in depth summary of existing assessment
		literature on civilian populations from the Mann, Gaynes, NICE 2011, Brown, and Goldston
		reports.
3	Recommendations re: if and how findings should be	Recommendations are beyond the scope of this report and will be addressed by the EBPWG.
	incorporated in current practices (e.g., intake)	
4	There is nothing here to implement.	Noted.
5	The ASI is no longer routinely used in VA substance	We have made this correction re: the ASI. We also provide an expanded discussion of
	abuse settings; the report also seems to discuss the	screening and assessment tools that could most easily be applied in primary care settings.
	importance of use in primary care for some but not all	
	of the instruments. That would be useful to address as	
	a separate section	
7	Address question 3	We have updated the report to include a more in depth summary of existing assessment
		literature on civilian populations from the Mann, Gaynes, NICE 2011, Brown, and Goldston
O	 7 Dl	reports.
Question 7	. Please provide us with contact details of any addition	nal individuals/stakeholders who should be made aware of this report.
I	Jan Kemp and Ioni Zeiss- OMHS	Noted. We will disseminate the report accordingly.
	Ira Katz and Mary Schohn- OMHO	
	Gordon Scheetman and Rick Stark- Primary Care/	
	PACT	
3	Mark Ilgen	Noted We will disseminate the report accordingly
4	Office of Research and Development – to help press	Noted We will disseminate the report accordingly
	the need for more research	
5	Ouality Managers	Noted. We will disseminate the report accordingly.
6	Jan Kemp, Ira Katz, Robert Bossarte	Noted. We will disseminate the report accordingly.

APPENDIX N. ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviation	Term
ASI	Addiction Severity Index
ASQ	Affective States Questionnaire
BDI	Beck Depression Inventory
CCHS-CFS	Canadian Community Health Survey Cycle 1.2 - Canadian Forces
	Supplement
CI	Confidence interval
CIDI	Composite International Diagnostic Interview
DoD	Department of Defense
DSM	Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders
EBPWG	Evidence Based Practice Working Group
EMR	Electronic medical record
FY	Fiscal year
HR	Hazard ratio
ICD	International Classification of Diseases
IPS	Interpersonal Psychological Survey
LHSV	Large Health Survey of Veterans
MCS	Mental Component Summary
MDD	Major Depressive Disorder
N/A	Not applicable
NARDEP	National Registry for Depression
NDI	National Death Index
NICE	National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence
NS	Not significant
OCD	Obsessive-compulsive disorder
OEF	Operation Enduring Freedom
OIF	Operation Iraqi Freedom
OR	Odds ratio
PAI	Personality Assessment Inventory
PHQ	Patient Health Questionnaire
PTSD	Post-traumatic stress disorder
PY	Person-year
RR	Relative risk
SD	Standard deviation
SPI	Suicide Potential Index
TBI	Traumatic brain injury
UK	United Kingdom
US	United States
VA	Veterans Affairs
VAMC	Veterans Affairs Medical Center
VHA	Veterans Health Administration
VS	Versus

APPENDIX O. EXCLUDED STUDIES

The following full-text publications were considered for inclusion but failed to meet the criteria for this report.

Exclusion codes:

- 1 = non-English language
- 2 =ineligible country
- 3 =ineligible outcome
- 4 = did not evaluate risk factors or assessments
- 5 = ineligible publication type
- 6 = ineligible systematic review due to limitations in quality
- 7 = ineligible nonsystematic regulatory agency analysis
- 8 =did not account for major potential confounders
- 9 = primary articles about risk, not a Veteran or military population

Exclu	ıded Trials	Exclusion Code
1	Abe K, Mertz KJ, Powell KE, Hanzlick RL. Characteristics of black and white suicide decedents in Fulton County, Georgia, 1988-2002. Am J Public Health. 2006 Oct;96(10):1794-8.	9
2	Acharya N, Rosen AS, Polzer JP, et al. Duloxetine: meta-analyses of suicidal behaviors and ideation in clinical trials for major depressive disorder. [erratum appears in J Clin Psychopharmacol 27 (1): 57]. J Clin Psychopharmacol. 2006 Dec;26(6):587-94.	6
3	Afifi TO, MacMillan H, Cox BJ, Asmundson GJ, Stein MB, Sareen J. Mental health correlates of intimate partner violence in marital relationships in a nationally representative sample of males and females. Journal of Interpersonal Violence. 2009 Aug;24(8):1398-417.	9
4	Ahmadian M, Fata L, Asgharnezhad A, Malakooti K. A comparison of the early maladaptive schemas of suicidal and non-suicidal depressed patients with non-clinical sample. Advances in Cognitive Science. 2008 Win;10(4; 40):98.	1
5	Ahs AM, Westerling R. Mortality in relation to employment status during different levels of unemployment. Scand J Public Health. 2006;34(2):159-67.	2
6	Akdeniz F, Karadag F. Does menstrual cycle affect mood disorders? Turk Psikiyatri Dergisi. 2006;17(4):296-304.	6
7	Aksoy-Poyraz C, Ozdemir A, Ozmen M, Arikan K, Ozkara C. Electroconvulsive therapy for bipolar depressive and mixed episode with high suicide risk after epilepsy surgery. Epilepsy & Behavior. 2008 Nov;13(4):707-9.	2
8	Alexander MJ, Haugland G, Ashenden P, Knight E, Brown I. Coping with thoughts of suicide: techniques used by consumers of mental health services. Psychiatr Serv. 2009 Sep;60(9):1214-21.	4
9	Allen JP, Cross G, Swanner J. Suicide in the Army: a review of current information. Mil Med. 2005 Jul;170(7):580-4.	5
10	Allmer C, Ventegodt S, Kandel I, Merrick J. Positive effects, side effects and adverse events of clinical holistic medicine. A review of Gerda Boyesen's non-pharmaceutical mind-body medicine (biodynamic body-psychotherapy) at two centres in United Kingdom and Germany. International Journal of Adolescent Medicine and Health. 2009 Jul-Sep;21(3):281-97.	5
11	Altamura AC, Mundo E, Bassetti R, et al. Transcultural differences in suicide attempters: analysis on a high-risk population of patients with schizophrenia or schizoaffective disorder. Schizophr Res. 2007 Jan;89(1-3):140-6.	3
12	Ancoli-Israel S, Cooke JR. Prevalence and Comorbidity of Insomnia and Effect on Functioning in Elderly Populations. J Am Geriatr Soc. 2005;53(Suppl. 7):S264-71.	5
13	Andersson N, Ledogar RJ. The CIET Aboriginal Youth Resilience Studies: 14 Years of Capacity Building and Methods Development in Canada. Pimatisiwin. 2008 Summer;6(2):65-88.	5

Exclu	ıded Trials	Exclusion Code
14	Andrade C, Bhakta SG, Singh NM. Controversy revisited: Selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors in paediatric depression. World J Biol Psychiatry. 2006;7(4):251-60.	5
15	Andriessen K, Krysinska K. Can sports events affect suicidal behavior? A review of the literature and implications for prevention. Crisis: The Journal of Crisis Intervention and Suicide Prevention. 2009;30(3):144-52.	5
16	Anestis MD, Joiner TE. Examining the role of emotion in suicidality: negative urgency as an amplifier of the relationship between components of the interpersonal-psychological theory of suicidal behavior and lifetime number of suicide attempts. J Affect Disord. 2011 Mar;129(1-3):261-9.	9
17	Angst J, Angst F, Gerber-Werder R, Gamma A. Suicide in 406 Mood-Disorder Patients With and Without Long-Term Medication: A 40 to 44 Years' Follow-Up. Archives of Suicide Research. 2005 Sep;9(3):279-300.	2
18	Appleby BS, Duggan PS, Regenberg A, Rabins PV. Psychiatric and neuropsychiatric adverse events associated with deep brain stimulation: A meta-analysis of ten years' experience. Mov Disord. 2007 Sep 15;22(12):1722-8.	6
19	Apter A, King RA, Bleich A, Fluck A, Kotler M, Kron S. Fatal and non-fatal suicidal behavior in Israeli adolescent males. Arch Suicide Res. 2008;12(1):20-9.	2
20	Apter A, Lipschitz A, Fong R, et al. Evaluation of suicidal thoughts and behaviors in children and adolescents taking paroxetine. J Child Adolesc Psychopharmacol. 2006 Feb-Apr;16(1-2):77-90.	5
21	Arata CM, Langhinrichsen-Rohling J, Bowers D, O'Brien N. Differential correlates of multi-type maltreatment among urban youth. Child Abuse Negl. 2007 Apr;31(4):393-415.	3
22	Arling TA, Yolken RH, Lapidus M, et al. Toxoplasma gondii antibody titers and history of suicide attempts in patients with recurrent mood disorders. J Nerv Ment Dis. 2009 Dec;197(12):905-8.	9
23	Army Suicide Prevention Task Force. Army Health Promotion, Risk Reduction and Suicide Prevention: Report 2010. Washington, D.C.: Department of Defense; 2010.	5
24	Arnette NC, Mascaro N, Santana MC, Davis S, Kaslow NJ. Enhancing spiritual well-being among suicidal African American female survivors of intimate partner violence. J Clin Psychol. 2007 Oct;63(10):909-24.	4
25	Arnette NC. Prediction of adolescent suicidality: Relative contribution of diagnosis, psychopathy, and impulsivity. Dissertation Abstracts International: Section B: The Sciences and Engineering. 2007;67(12-B):7362.	9
26	Asarnow JR, Baraff LJ, Berk M, et al. Pediatric emergency department suicidal patients: two-site evaluation of suicide ideators, single attempters, and repeat attempters. J Am Acad Child Adolesc Psychiatry. 2008 Aug;47(8):958-66.	9
27	Asarnow JR, Porta G, Spirito A, et al. Suicide attempts and nonsuicidal self-injury in the treatment of resistant depression in adolescents: findings from the TORDIA study. J Am Acad Child Adolesc Psychiatry. 2011 Aug;50(8):772-81.	9
28	Aseltine RH, Jr., Schilling EA, James A, Glanovsky JL, Jacobs D. Age variability in the association between heavy episodic drinking and adolescent suicide attempts: findings from a large-scale, school-based screening program. J Am Acad Child Adolesc Psychiatry. 2009 Mar;48(3):262-70.	9
29	Atmaca M, Tezcan E, Parmaksiz S, Saribas M, Ozler S, Ustundag B. Serum ghrelin and cholesterol values in suicide attempters. Neuropsychobiology. 2006;54(1):59-63.	2
30	Auquier P, Lancon C, Rouillon F, Lader M, Holmes C. Mortality in schizophrenia. Pharmacoepidemiol Drug Saf. 2006 Dec;15(12):873-9.	5
31	Auquier P, Lancon C, Rouillon F, Lader M. Mortality in schizophrenia. Pharmacoepidemiol Drug Saf. 2007 Dec;16(12):1308-12.	5
32	Auxemery Y, Fidelle G. Internet and suicidality: A googling study about mediatic view of a suicidal pact. Annales Medico-Psychologiques. 2010 Sep;168(7):502-7.	1
33	Axelson D, Birmaher B, Strober M, et al. Phenomenology of children and adolescents with bipolar spectrum disorders. Arch Gen Psychiatry. 2006 Oct;63(10):1139-48.	3

Exclu	uded Trials	Exclusion Code
34	Ayalon L, Mackin S, Arean PA, Chen H, McDonel Herr EC. The role of cognitive functioning and distress in suicidal ideation in older adults. J Am Geriatr Soc. 2007 Jul;55(7):1090-4.	3
35	Ayer DW, Jayathilake K, Meltzer HY. The InterSePT suicide scale for prediction of imminent suicidal behaviors. Psychiatry Res. 2008 Oct 30;161(1):87-96.	2
36	Ayer L, Althoff R, Ivanova M, et al. Child Behavior Checklist Juvenile Bipolar Disorder (CBCL-JBD) and CBCL Posttraumatic Stress Problems (CBCL-PTSP) scales are measures of a single dysregulatory syndrome. Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry. 2009 Oct;50(10):1291-300.	9
37	Ayliffe L, Lagace C, Muldoon P. The use of a mental health triage assessment tool in a busy Canadian tertiary care children's hospital. J Emerg Nurs. 2005;31(2):161-5.	5
38	Baca-Garcia E, Perez-Rodriguez M, Oquendo MA, et al. Estimating risk for suicide attempt: Are we asking the right questions?: Passive suicidal ideation as a marker for suicidal behavior. Journal of Affective Disorders. 2011 Nov;134(1-3):327-32.	8
39	Baca-Garcia E, Perez-Rodriguez MM, Diaz Sastre C, Saiz-Ruiz J, de Leon J. Suicidal behavior in schizophrenia and depression: a comparison. Schizophr Res. 2005 Jun 1;75(1):77-81.	2
40	Bach-Mizrachi H, Underwood MD, Kassir SA, et al. Neuronal tryptophan hydroxylase mRNA expression in the human dorsal and median raphe nuclei: major depression and suicide. Neuropsychopharmacology. 2006 Apr;31(4):814-24.	9
41	Bach-Mizrachi H, Underwood MD, Tin A, Ellis SP, Mann JJ, Arango V. Elevated expression of tryptophan hydroxylase-2 mRNA at the neuronal level in the dorsal and median raphe nuclei of depressed suicides. Mol Psychiatry. 2008 May;13(5):507-13, 465.	9
42	Baigent MF. Understanding alcohol misuse and comorbid psychiatric disorders. Current Opinion in Psychiatry. 2005 May;18(3):223-8.	5
43	Bajbouj M, Merkl A, Schlaepfer TE, et al. Two-year outcome of vagus nerve stimulation in treatment-resistant depression. J Clin Psychopharmacol. 2010 Jun;30(3):273-81.	2
44	Bakim B, Karamustafalioglu K, Akpinar A. Suicides and attempted suicides in alcohol and other substance use disorders. Bagimlik Dergisi. 2007 Aug;8(2):91-6.	1
45	Bakim B, Karamustafalioglu K, Ogutcen O, Yumrukcal H. Alcohol-Substance Use Disorders in HIV Infection. Bagimlik Dergisi. 2006 Aug;7(2):91-7.	1
46	Bakst S, Rabinowitz J, Bromet EJ. Antecedents and patterns of suicide behavior in first-admission psychosis. Schizophr Bull. 2010 Jul:36(4):880-9.	9
47	Bakst S, Rabinowitz J, Bromet EJ. Is poor premorbid functioning a risk factor for suicide attempts in first-admission psychosis? Schizophr Res. 2010 Feb;116(2-3):210-6.	9
48	Balci Y, Canogullari G, Ulupinar E. Characterization of the gunshot suicides. J Forensic Leg Med. 2007 May;14(4):203-8.	2
49	Baldassano CF. Illness course, comorbidity, gender, and suicidality in patients with bipolar disorder. J Clin Psychiatry. 2006;67 Suppl 11:8-11.	9
50	Baldessarini RJ, Pompili M, Tondo L. Suicidal risk in antidepressant drug trials. Arch Gen Psychiatry. 2006 Mar;63(3):246-8.	5
51	Baldessarini RJ, Tondo L, Davis P, Pompili M, Goodwin FK, Hennen J. Decreased risk of suicides and attempts during long-term lithium treatment: a meta-analytic review. Bipolar Disord. 2006 Oct;8(5 Pt 2):625-39.	6
52	Baldwin DS, Reines EH, Guiton C, Weiller E. Escitalopram therapy for major depression and anxiety disorders. Ann Pharmacother. 2007 Oct;41(10):1583-92.	5
53	Balestrieri M, Rucci P, Sbrana A, et al. Lifetime rhythmicity and mania as correlates of suicidal ideation and attempts in mood disorders. Compr Psychiatry. 2006 Sep-Oct;47(5):334-41.	2
54	Balis T, Postolache TT. Ethnic differences in adolescent suicide in the United States. International Journal of Child Health and Human Development. 2008;1(3,Spec Iss):281-96.	5
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152	Coryell WH. Clinical Assessment of Suicide Risk in Depressive Disorder. CNS Spectrums. 2006 Jun;11(6):455-61.	5
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154	Cox DW, Ghahramanlou-Holloway M, Greene FN, et al. Suicide in the United States Air Force: Risk factors communicated before and at death. J Affect Disord. 2011 Jun 6.	8
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165	Darke S, Kaye S, McKetin R, Duflou J. Major physical and psychological harms of methamphetamine use. Drug and Alcohol Review. 2008 May;27(3):253-62.	5
166	Davis L, Uezato A, Newell JM, Frazier E. Major depression and comorbid substance use disorders. Curr Opin Psychiatry. 2008 Jan;21(1):14-8.	5
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175	Department of Defense Task Force on the Prevention of Suicide by Members of the Armed Forces. The Challenge and the Promise: Strengthening the Force, Preventing Suicide and Saving Lives. Washington D.C.: Department of Defense; 2010.	5
176	Desai RA, Dausey D, Rosenheck RA. Suicide among discharged psychiatric inpatients in the Department of Veterans Affairs. Mil Med. 2008 Aug;173(8):721-8.	3
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302	Huesmann L, Taylor LD. The role of media violence in violent behavior. Annual Review of Public Health. 2006;27:393-415.	5
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304	Hughes S, Cohen D. A systematic review of long-term studies of drug treated and non-drug treated depression. Journal of Affective Disorders. 2009;118(1-3):9-18.	3
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