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An Evaluation of Suicide Prevention Hotline Results in Taiwan: Caller Profiles and the Effect on Emotional Distress and Suicide Risk

Fortune Fu-Tsung Shaw , Wen-Hsien Chiang

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Highlights

- This study represents the first-ever examination of the proximal effectiveness of the suicide prevention hotline in Taiwan, as well as in Asia. It is also one of a few studies to describe the caller profiles of the suicide prevention hotline. In this study, we found that (1) notwithstanding the suicide status of the callers, significant decreases in their emotional distress and suicidal urgency can be detected during the course of the telephone session; (2) unexpectedly, people with an ongoing suicide attempt are less emotionally distressed than those with only suicidal thoughts; and (3) men, the elderly, and people living outside northern Taiwan are less likely to call the hotline.

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