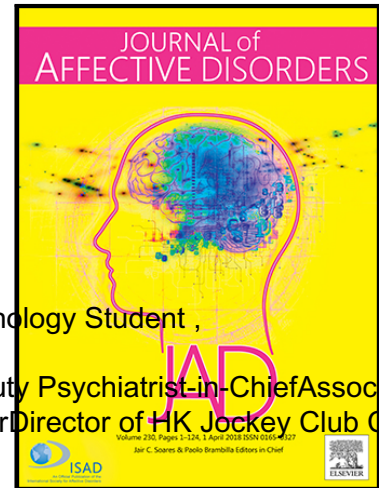


## Accepted Manuscript

Suicide Deaths by Gas Inhalation in Toronto: An Observational Study of Emerging Methods of Suicide



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**HIGHLIGHTS**

- **Gas inhalation (i.e. helium or nitrogen compressed gas, charcoal burning, or car exhaust) was the method used in 4.7% of all suicide deaths in Toronto (1998-2015), consistent with what has been observed in other countries around the world**
- **Comparing 1998-2003 to 2010-2015 there was a 1075% increase in deaths by helium (4 vs. 43 deaths) and a 533% increase in deaths by charcoal burning (3 vs. 16 deaths)**
- **13 of 14 people who died by charcoal burning whose ethnicity could be determined were of Asian background**
- **Suicide by gas inhalation is a potentially preventable cause of death and these results support increased surveillance of these deaths, efforts to restrict access to these methods, and timely interventions including minimizing media reporting of novel methods of suicide.**

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