

Risk of suicide in panic disorder

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This study attempted to find out the risk of suicidal ideation and suicide attempts associated with panic disorder. One hundred and twenty patients with panic disorder were included. Measures done included Hamilton Depression Scale, Montgomery Asperg Depression Rating Scale, Beck scale for suicidal ideation BSS. 22% of patients with panic disorder reported suicidal ideation in the past year, but only 5% of the patients with panic disorder actually made suicide attempts in the past year. 8.5% of the patients with panic disorder reported suicide attempts at other times in their lives.

Patients who had made past suicide attempts were significantly more likely to report previous psychiatric hospitalizations and past treatment for depression than those who had never attempted suicide. A significant proportion of individuals with panic disorder reported suicidal ideation. Few individuals had actually made recent suicide attempts.

Although 8.5% of the patients reported lifetime suicide attempts, there is an evidence to suggest that these were in the context of depressive symptoms.