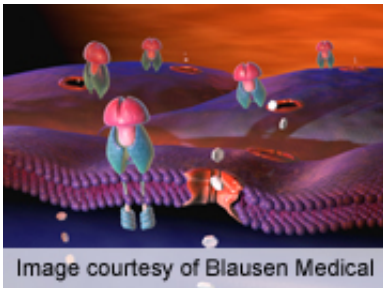


# Risk of unnatural death is higher in diabetes patients

June 5 2014

---



(HealthDay)—Unnatural deaths occur more frequently among individuals with diabetes, according to research published online May 21 in *Diabetes Care*.

Roger T. Webb, Ph.D., of the University of Manchester in the United Kingdom, and colleagues conducted a [cohort study](#) that included 252,191 individuals diagnosed with type 1 or 2 [diabetes](#), as well as matched comparison participants. The authors sought to examine the risk of unnatural death among individuals with diabetes.

The researchers found that, compared with the general population, the risk of unnatural death was increased among individuals with diabetes (77.3 versus 32.1 deaths per 10,000; relative risk [RR], 2.2; 95 percent confidence interval [CI], 2.1 to 2.4). Among [individuals](#) with diabetes,

increased risk of death was observed for suicide (RR, 3.4; 95 percent CI, 3.0 to 3.8), homicide (RR, 3.1; 95 percent CI, 1.6 to 6.1), iatrogenic effects (RR, 2.4; 95 percent CI, 1.9 to 3.2), and accident (RR, 2.0; 95 percent CI, 1.9 to 2.1). In the diabetes cohort, risk was highly elevated for fatal poisonings from psychotropic drugs, other medications, narcotics, alcohol, and carbon monoxide; almost 9 percent of fatal poisonings were caused by overdoses of insulin or hypoglycemic drugs.

"Various causes of unnatural death, in particular deliberate and accidental [poisonings](#), occur more frequently among diabetic patients," the authors write. "Preventive measures should focus on restricting means of self-poisoning, especially in relation to safe prescribing and medication monitoring."

**More information:** [Abstract](#)  
[Full Text \(subscription or payment may be required\)](#)

Copyright © 2014 [HealthDay](#). All rights reserved.

Citation: Risk of unnatural death is higher in diabetes patients (2014, June 5) retrieved 23 April 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2014-06-unnatural-death-higher-diabetes-patients.html>

<p>This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.</p>
--