Suicidal Behavior and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder in Adolescents of Medellin (Colombia), 2011-2012.

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Abstract
BACKGROUND:
Suicide is a public health problem. In Colombia, teenagers are considered a group at high risk for suicidal behavior.

OBJECTIVE:
To explore the possible association between suicidal behavior and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder in adolescents of Medellin.

METHODOLOGY:
Observational, cross-sectional, analytical study. The Composite International Diagnostic Interview was applied to a total of 447 adolescents and the sociodemographic, clinical, familiar, and life event variables of interest were analyzed. The descriptive analysis of qualitative variables are presented as absolute values and frequencies, and the age was described with median [interquartile range]. A logistic regression model was constructed with explanatory variables that showed statistical association. Data were analyzed with SPSS® software version 21.0.

RESULTS:
Of the total, 59.1% were female, and the median age was 16 [14-18] years. Suicidal behavior was presented in 31% of females and 23% of males. Attention deficit was present in 6.3% of adolescents. The logistic regression analysis showed that the variables that best explained the suicidal behavior of adolescents were: female sex, post-traumatic stress disorder, panic disorder, and cocaine use.

CONCLUSIONS:
The diagnosis and early intervention of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder in children may be a useful strategy in the prevention of suicidal behavior in adolescents.