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SUICIDE ATTEMPTS AND SUICIDE IDEATION IN ADOLESCENTS: SDQ SCORES IN THE SPANISH SAMPLE OF "SAVING AND EMPOWERING YOUNG LIVES IN EUROPE" (SEYLE) PROJECT

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Introduction: Behaviour disorders in adolescents are a risk factor associated with suicidal behavior.

Aim: To examine the distribution of the Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ) scores in the Spanish sample of adolescents from the "Saving and Empowering Young Lives in Europe" (SEYLE) project and study the differences according to the gender and the relationship with both suicide attempts (SA) and suicidal ideation (SI).

Method: 875 pupils from 12 secondary schools sited in Asturias (Spain) [50.7% males; mean age (SD) =14.5 (0.72)] were assessed through the SDQ and Paykel Suicide Scale (PSS). Results: No significant differences were found in the SDQ total score by gender, but were found (p< 0.001) in some subscales as emotional symptoms (t=-6.769) (women scoring higher), hyperactivity (t=3.283) and prosocial (t=5.260) (men scoring higher). Regarding PSS, 3.1% tried to take their life during past six months. No significant differences were found in SA by gender but were found (p< 0.050) for the thought that life not worth (t=-3.597), women scoring higher, and about wish to be dead (t=-2.630), men scoring higher. Previous SA were significant related (p< 0.001) with SDQ total score (X^2 =38,437), emotional symptoms (X^2 =25,528), hyperactivity (X^2 =13,572) and behaviour disorders (X^2 =7,505). SI was significant related (p< 0.001) with SDQ total score (X^2 =38,437), emotional symptoms (X^2 =31,077), behaviour disorders (X^2 =33,011), peer problems (X^2 =35,161) and prosocial behavior (X^2 =17,978).

Conclusion: SA and SI were related with difficulties (SDQ criteria), mainly on emotional symptoms and behaviour disorders. Prevention strategies in high risk groups are likely to become increasingly important.