

**Physician Suicide: A Tragedy for International Medical Communities**

**By: Tiffany I. Leung, MD, MPH, FACP, FAMIA**

Bio: Dr. Leung is an assistant professor at the Faculty of Health, Medicine and Life Sciences and PhD candidate at the Care and Public Health Research Institute at Maastricht University in The Netherlands. She  
0 1 72herlands. She

*How do we talk about suicide?*

Talking about suicide is a starting point. In whatever language or culture, dialogue is an important

is but one of many issues, but I still strongly encourage any physician, medical student, or trainee who has been touched by suicide to consider speaking up. Together, we can collaborate with our physician peers, wherever they may be and with whatever background they may come from, to help each other achieve our best health and well-being while we are supporting that of our patients.

We can also collaborate across disciplines, learning from and supporting each other, including nurses, paramedics, or even veterinarians, police officers, or firefighters, who might also, like physicians, be at increased risk for suicidal thoughts and deaths compared to the general population. September is Suicide Prevention Awareness Month, where September 17th is the second annual National Physician Suicide Awareness Day.

Our powerful clinical voices can help our peers in our local communities, but also help provide the support needed for the international medical community to advocate for physicians' well-being. We might never know if we have prevented a physician's death by suicide, but I firmly believe that should not stop us from trying.

*If you are in crisis and need emergency help, and in the United States, call 9-1-*

Hidden Curricula, Ethics, and Professionalism: Optimizing Clinical Learning Environments in  
Becoming and Being a Physician: A Position Paper oop(per)hics, ae0000912 0 612 792 reW\*00.00000912 0 6hysicia