Preventing suicide:  
a clinical and population-health perspective 
from the UK

Professor Nav Kapur  
Professor of Psychiatry and Population Health 
Centre for Suicide Prevention 
Centre for Mental Health and Safety 
University of Manchester

Suicide is a complex problem with many potential causes. Of course, we need to consider population wide and societal approaches but what role might health services have in preventing suicide? Nav will draw on research from his unit in Manchester and other studies internationally to consider what interventions work. Promising strategies include: a specific focus on particular care settings (for example, mental health in-patient units); implementing national policies and service changes (for example, 24 hour crisis services); considering the wider organizational context in which care is provided (for example, staff turnover); and designing and implementing clinical guidelines for the management of self-harm /suicidal behaviour. Many of these strategies are not just about preventing suicide but improving patient safety and the quality of care more generally.

Nav is Professor of Psychiatry and Population Health at the University of Manchester, UK, and an Honorary Consultant Psychiatrist at Manchester Mental Health and Social Care Trust. He is Head of Research at the Centre for Suicide Prevention in the University of Manchester and leads the suicide work programme of the National Confidential Inquiry into Suicide and Homicide by People with Mental Illness. He was Chair of the Guideline Development Group for the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) self-harm guidelines and is currently chairing the NICE guidelines for depression in adults. He is a member of the Department of Health’s (England) National Suicide Prevention Strategy Advisory Group. He has published extensively on suicide and self-harm with much of his research focussing on how health services might best contribute to suicide prevention and care for people who have self-harmed.

Wednesday 5 August 2015  
12.30 - 1.30 pm, Seminar Room 515 
Melbourne School of Population and Global Health 
Level 5, 207 Bouverie Street, Carlton

ALL WELCOME