

MENTAL HEALTH & ADOLESCENCE

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OUTLINE

Overview of mental health in adolescence

Causes & common stressors



Prevention & promoting positive mental health

Schools & mental health

Summary

Overview

 Adolescent mental health is an important area as this period of life is marked by significant changes in physical, emotional and social demands/needs.

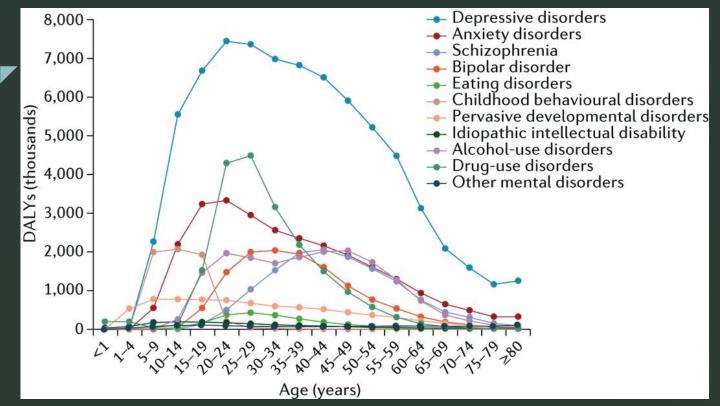
 According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), globally nearly 15% of all 10-19-yearolds experiences a mental disorder.

Accounts for 13% of the global burden of disease in this age group.

• Self-harm is among the top causes of death for adolescents. Suicide is the 4th leading cause of death of adolescent boys and girls.

CAMHS SERVICE 2019 - 2023

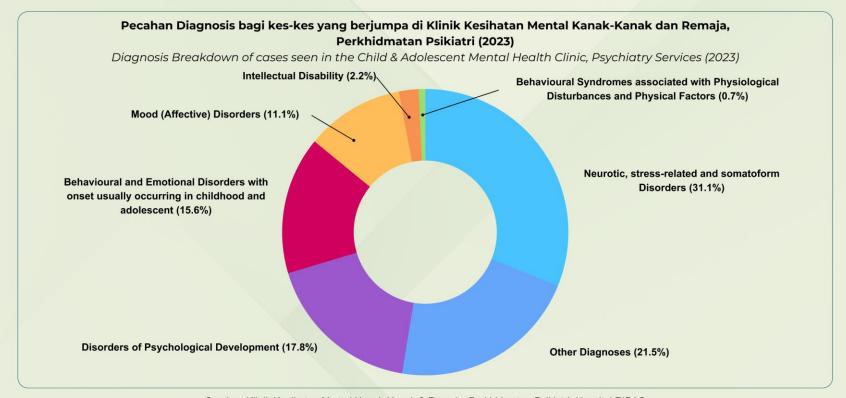
YEAR	NEW REFERRALS	FOLLOW-UP	TOTAL
2019	146	650	796
2020	132	881	1013
2021	116	730	846
2022	158	811	969
2023	160	793	953



Nature: a focus on adolescence to reduce neurological, mental health and substance-use disability

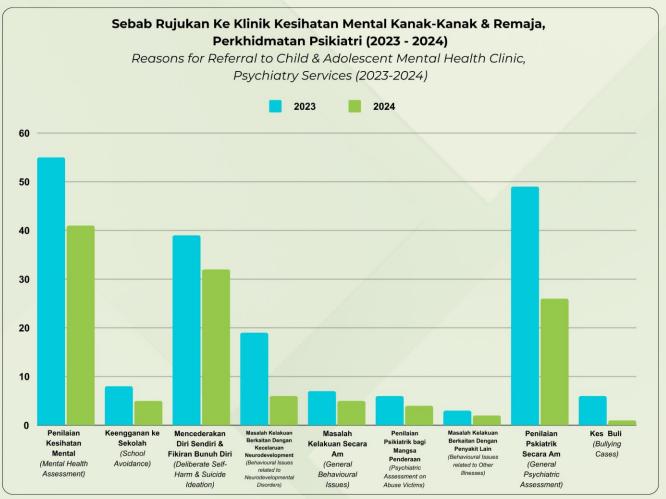
- Depression and anxiety are among the leading causes of illness and disability among adolescents.
- It is estimated that 3.6% of 10–14-year-olds and 4.6% of 15–19-year-olds experience an anxiety disorder.
- Depression is estimated to occur among 1.1% of adolescents aged 10–14 years, and 2.8% of 15–19-year-olds.

Child And Adolescent Mental Health Service



Sumber: Klinik Kesihatan Mental Kanak-Kanak & Remaja, Perkhidmatan Psikiatri, Hospital RIPAS Source: Child & Adolescent Mental Health Clinic, Psychiatry Services, RIPAS Hospital

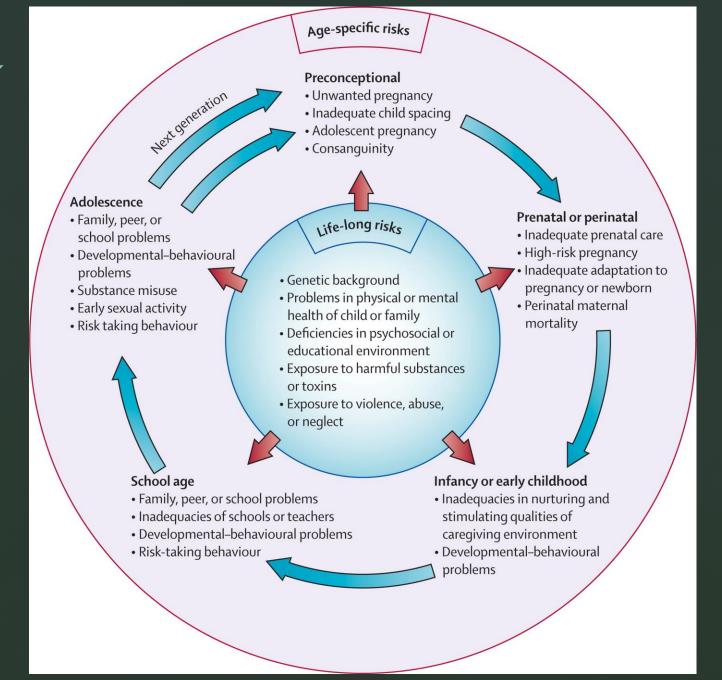
Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service



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Causes & common stressors

- Biological factors such as genetics or brain development
- Environmental factors such as stressful family dynamics, parental conflict or neglect,
 and financial stressors.
- Social factors include a history of trauma or bullying, peer pressure to conform and excessive social media use.
- Academic stressors also play an important role with adolescents feeling excessive pressure to succeed.
- Other factors include struggles with identity, lack of social support, feelings of loneliness or substance misuse.



FACTORS THAT CAN SHAPE THE MENTAL HEALTH OF YOUNG PEOPLE



Source: Adapted from WHO's Determinants of Adolescent Health Development: An Ecological Model, 2014 and Bronfenbrenner & Ceci (1994)

dis

Society

Environment

Community

Individ

Social and economic inequalities, discrimination, racism, migration, media and technology, popular culture, government policies

Neighborhood safety, access to green spaces, healthy food, housing, health care, pollution, natural disasters, climate change

Relationships with peers, teachers, and mentors; faith community; school climate, academic pressure, community support

Relationships with parents, caregivers, and siblings; family mental health; financial stability; domestic violence; trauma

Age, genetics, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, disability, beliefs, knowledge, attitudes, coping skills

These are examples and not a comprehensive list of factors



Prevention & promoting positive mental health

Schools & mental health

- Adolescents spend a significant time in school each day, and schools play a crucial role in identifying, supporting and promoting good mental health amongst its students.
- Common mental health problems seen in school include: Anxiety, depression, self-harm, significant academic stress and behavioural disorders like attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD).
- CAMHS Brunei schools outreach program



1. Help teachers identify common mental health problems



- 2. Provide teachers with the tools to support and accommodate for mental health problems in the classroom.
- 3. Highlight the pathway for seeking extra support

Schools can further promote adolescent mental health by ensuring their staff receive:

- 1. Adequate training
- 2. Counselling services
- 3. Fostering a positive school culture
- 4. Tackling bullying appropriately and in a timely manner
- 5. Engaging parents through open communication and workshops
- 6. Implementing programs to teach coping skills and build resilience
- 7. Ensure there is a robust protocol in place to respond to mental health crises.

Summary



- Adolescence is a transformative period and a challenging time
- Experiencing difficulty does not necessarily indicate an underlying mental disorder.
- Parents can support their children
- Identify signs that extra support is needed
- Seek help a crucial step towards recovery e.g school counsellor, Talian Harapan (145), visit GP, or attend A+E in a crisis.