

Appendix 5 (as supplied by author): Characteristics of included studies assessing the relationship between SSRI exposure and risk of suicide attempt and completion

Study name (country)	Study design	Population framework	Age range (mean)*	Males %	Group exposed to SSRI	Control group not exposed to any AD	Adjustment for confounders or matching criteria	Outcome definition	Ascertainment of SSRI exposure	Quality score
Gibbons 2007 (USA)	Cohort	Veterans health administration database	18 + (59)	92	New depressive episode and SSRI monotherapy <i>n</i> = 82 828	New depressive episode and no AD exposure, <i>n</i> = 59 432	No	Attempted suicide (ICD-9)	AD exposure defined as prescriptions following new depressive treatment (mean FU 433 d)	7
Olfson 2006 (USA)	Case-control	Medicaid database	6-64	61	Suicide attempt, <i>n</i> = 521a/263c, and completion, <i>n</i> = 86a/8c, preceded by hospital admission for depression	No suicide attempt, <i>n</i> = 2394a/1241c, or completion, <i>n</i> = 396a/39c, and hospital admission for depression	> 3	Attempted and completed suicide (ICD-9)	AD exposure defined as prescriptions in which the supplied d included or exceeded the event date	8
Olfson 2006 (USA)	Case-control	Medicaid database	6-64	26	New depressive episode and suicide attempt during the subsequent 120 d, <i>n</i> = 185a/51c	New depressive episode and no suicide attempt during the subsequent 120 d, <i>n</i> = 893a/239c	> 3	Attempted suicide (ICD-9)	AD exposure defined as prescriptions in which the supplied d included or exceeded the event date	8
Rahme 2008 (Canada)	Cohort	Medicaid database	65 + (75)	30	Patients ≥ 65 with a new SSRI prescription and prior billing for depression and/or anxiety, <i>n</i> = 128 229	Same cohort during periods of nonexposure to any AD (based on dispensation dates and number of supplied d)	No	Completed suicide (ICD-9)	AD exposure defined as prescriptions following initial AD prescription (mean FU unclear)	7

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Sondergaard 2007 (Denmark)	Cohort	National database	10–17	N/A	Patients receiving new SSRI treatment during study period, <i>n</i> = 2311	Random group of patients who did not receive AD treatment, <i>n</i> = 50 000	> 3	Completed suicide (ICD-9)	AD exposure defined as prescriptions following initial AD prescription (mean FU unclear)	6
Sondergaard 2007 (Denmark)	Cohort	National database	18 + (56)	30	New diagnosis of depressive episode, <i>n</i> = 31 422, and SSRI exposure	New diagnosis of depressive episode and no AD exposure, <i>n</i> = 15.8% of cohort	> 3	Completed suicide (ICD-10)	AD exposure defined as prescriptions following initial AD prescription (mean FU unclear)	7
Tilhonen 2006 (Finland)	Cohort	National database	10 + (39)	48	Patients without psychosis hospitalized because of suicide attempt, <i>n</i> = 15 390	Same cohort during periods of nonexposure to any AD	> 3	Attempted and completed suicide (ICD-10)	AD exposure defined as prescriptions following initial AD prescription (mean FU unclear)	7
Valuck 2004 (USA)	Cohort	Medicaid database	12–18	35	Patients with a new start of depression treatment and SSRI exposure within 30 d of the index diagnosis date, <i>n</i> = 4595	Patients with a new start of depression treatment and no SSRI exposure within 30 d of the index diagnosis date, <i>n</i> = 17 313	> 3	Attempted suicide (ICD-9)	AD exposure defined as prescriptions following initial AD prescription (mean FU of at least 6 mo, mean 1.36 y)	7

a = attempt; AD = antidepressant; c = completion; SSRI = selective serotonin uptake inhibitor.
 *Unless otherwise indicated.