

## **TREATING CLINICAL REALITIES THROUGH VIRTUAL REALITY : ICTS AS A NEW THERAPEUTICAL WEAPON**

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Self-harm and suicide are major public health problems in adolescents, with rates of self-harm being high in the teenage years and suicide being the second most common cause of death in young people worldwide. Moreover, research indicates that far from all who suffer from depression and suicidal ideation seek treatment and the determination of suicide risk and prevention of suicide attempts is traditionally difficult. In an era of empowered public and patients awareness, internet may be a more powerful determinant of health-seeking behavior than medical opinion. Suicide information is easily accessible over the web, as are special chat rooms for discussions with likeminded people. Internet can be considered as well as efficiently exploited to help people in severe emotional distress, including those contemplating suicide. Some websites advise acutely suicidal persons to seek help. Promotion and announcement of suicide are forbidden. Some websites offer a variety of professional help, including psychological and health-related information on various troubling issues, questions and answers and professional guidance intended to promote self-help in coping with numerous psychological problems. One promising treatment is activation, two kinds of which are behavioural activation, and one solely focused on physical exercise. These two kinds of activation therapy have the potential to be administered via the Internet, which would both lower the threshold for those seeking treatment, while also providing effective treatment to a low cost.