

**Title:** Risk and protection factors in adolescents with self-injurious behavior in a mental health service

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Self-injury is a complex and multi-faceted behavior, presenting itself as emerging risk behavior among adolescents and, therefore, widely studied by the scientific community. In general, self-injurious behavior is defined as a direct and intentional act of provoking damage to oneself which may or may not have a suicidal intent. Adolescents with self-injurious behavior may use a variety of methods to injure themselves, but the most recurrent self-injury method is through sharp objects –knife, scissors, blades– followed by other equally self-destructive methods, such as ingesting high-dose medicine, scratching, burning, or hitting oneself. This is a type of quantitative documentary research of descriptive and exploratory content that studied the profile of adolescents with self-injurious behavior and the variables of risk and protection regarding the suicidal intent, reported in a Children and Youth Psychosocial Care Center (CAPS IJ) from a metropolitan region in the south of Brazil. The CAPS is part of the National Public Health System (SUS) for the treatment of children and adolescents up to 18 years who suffer from severe and persistent mental disorders. The clinical setting selected for this study is a field in which self-injurious behavior has already occurred. Also, it is the place where the adolescent has already received appropriate mental health care. A total of 139 adolescent medical reports makes up the sample. It was considered the data of all adolescents with self-injury records who received care by the service from January 2016 to June 2019. In this study, the inclusion criteria for the records that made up the sample consisted of age ranging from 13 to 18 years old incomplete ( $M=14,36$  years;  $SD=1,63$ ); presenting intent behavior of self-injury and or suicide attempt as a reason for assistance. To the planned analyses occurred a dismissal of twenty-four medical records not containing the minimum required information. Data from 139 assisted adolescents, admitted for self-injury, reported that self-injuries occurred predominantly at home, with multiple episodes, using sharp objects with suicidal intent. The hierarchical binary logistic regression results point out that experiencing abuse in the present -using non-sharps objects- having severe injuries and practicing them in different places are risk variables. Whereas the existence of community and school social support networks are protective factors. There is a necessity of investment in the studies that explore the etiology of self-injuries and that provide support for cases of prevention, detection, and treatment.