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THE ROLE OF MARITAL STATUS, LITERACY, AND URBANITY IN SUICIDAL BEHAVIOR BY BURNS IN THE PROVINCE OF KHORASAN, IRAN

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A prospective study of all suicidal behaviors by burns requiring hospitalization was conducted in the province of Khorasan, Iran, from March 21, 2005 to March 20, 2006, to examine marital status, urbanity and literacy among these patients. Data were obtained through interviews during the course of hospitalization. A total of 130 patients with suicidal behavior by burns were identified (incidence rate of 2.9 per 100,000). Females had a higher rate of suicidal behavior by burns than males (4.2 vs. 1.6 per 100,000, P< 0.001). The rate of suicidal behavior by burns was higher among single persons than married persons(4.3 vs. 3.5 per 100,000). The rate of suicidal behavior by burns among the rural population was slightly higher than the urban population (3.2 vs. 2.7 per 100,000). The high rate of suicidal behavior by burns among young, married women in Khorasan is a social tragedy.