The Australian Institute of Male Health and Studies has just released basic guidelines for organisations engaging in research and program design relating to suicide prevention for men.

The rationale for the guidelines comes from recent Australian and overseas evidence indicating that unemployed men are much more at risk of suicide than employed men, and, though by far the majority of suicides are male, unemployed females are also more at risk of suicide than employed females.

The guidelines also point out that there is a growing opinion internationally that efforts of male suicide prevention might be better informed by factors outside the current mental health paradigm, since unemployment and associated chronic stress, though common potential precipitants of suicidal ideation and suicide, do not constitute a mental disorder.

The guidelines are available at: