



GRAND ROUNDS

## **Gun Violence & Mental Illness**

Presented by: John Samuel Rozel, MD, MSL  
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University of Pittsburgh

**Wednesday, July 17**  
**11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**  
**Light Refreshments Served**  
**Silver Hill Hospital Martin Center**

Public discourse and public policy on firearm injury prevention are routinely driven by outlier tragedies such as mass shootings: Orlando, Newtown, Las Vegas, and too many others to list. News media and pundit responses to these events often drive misinformation and inspire misguided and ineffective policy. Exploring the complex interplay between violence, firearms, and mental illness in modern America from the perspective of a forensic and emergency psychiatrist, this presentation explores how evidence-based policies and interventions could have a meaningful impact on firearm injury prevention with minimal impact on Constitutional rights. While this is a less clinical topic, it is invariably timely and salient and is intended to demystify and debunk common misperceptions about the issue held by advocates on both sides of this important problem. Longer versions of the presentation will explore interdisciplinary threat assessment as an approach to preventing events and the "whose lane is it anyway" debate.

### Learning Objectives:

1. Discuss the limited overlap between violence and mental illness
2. Explain the legal and historical context of gun ownership in America
3. Apply basic precepts of public health policy
4. Identify challenges and opportunities in controlling firearm access for high risk populations
5. Discuss evidence based, politically feasible interventions that may prevent firearm injuries

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