VISN 3 Suicide Risk Assessment and Prevention Initiative:

Suicide Template in CPRS

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Progress Note Properties

Progress Note Title: PSYCHIATRY SUICIDE ASSESSMENT

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Signed: 04/20/2004 15:59
BEFORE BEGINNING THIS ASSESSMENT, CLICK THE "ALL" BUTTON IN THE LOWER LEFT OF THIS DIALOG.

ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW: The assessment of suicide risk requires a careful ...

Current Suicidal Ideation/Intent/Plan:
(Patient may be at risk for suicide without voicing ideation, intent, or plan)

IDRATIONAL OVERVIEW: Suicidal ideation is the usual starting point for ...

SAMPLE IDEATION QUESTIONS: ...

- Ideation: □ Yes □ No
- If Ideation is "NO" UNCHECK!!!
  - If "Yes":
    - Passive: □ Yes □ No
    - Active: □ Yes □ No
    - Intent: □ Yes □ No
    - Plan: □ Yes □ No
    - Describe:

OVERVIEW OF CHRONIC RISKS: These risk factors are essentially ...

Longstanding, Chronic Risk Factors: These factors place the person at an increased risk for suicidal behavior. They are relatively immutable trait type characteristics, exceptions being illnesses that enters remission.
Rest your mouse!
Informational Text
Sample Questions

ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW: The assessment

CURRENT SUICIDAL IDEATION/INTENT/PLAN
(Patient may be at risk for suicide plan)

IDEATION OVERVIEW: Suicidal ideation is the usual starting point for ...

SAMPLE IDEATION QUESTIONS:

- Have you ever felt that if things don't change life is not worth living?
- That life has no meaning?
- Have you ever wished you were dead?
- Have you ever imagined dying by accident?
- Have you imagined getting a terminal illness?
- Have you ever thought you wouldn't be missed?
- That those around you would be better off if you were gone?
- Have you reached a point where you want to kill yourself?
- Have you reached a point where you have devised a plan to end your life?
- Have you been giving things away?
- Have you arranged to see someone, almost as a farewell?
- Have you prepared a suicide note?
- A will?

OVERVIEW OF PERSON AT AN INCREASED RISK

- How would you do it?
- Do you have the necessary items for completion of the plan available?
- Have you gone about assembling the items in your plan?
- Does the person at an increased risk have a stable trait...
BEFORE BEGINNING THIS ASSESSMENT, CHECK THE "ALL" BUTTON IN THE LOWER LEFT OF THIS DIALOG.

ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW: The assessment of suicide risk requires a careful ...

- Current Suicidal Ideation/Intent/Plan:
  (Patient may be at risk for suicide without voicing ideation, intent, or plan)

IDEATION OVERVIEW: Suicidal ideation is the usual starting point for ...

SAMPLE IDEATION QUESTIONS: ...

- Ideation: ◯ Yes ◯ No
- If Ideation is "NO" UNCHECK"!!!
  If "Yes":
  - Passive: ◯ Yes ◯ No
  - Active: ◯ Yes ◯ No
  - Intent: ◯ Yes ◯ No
  - Plan: ◯ Yes ◯ No
  - Describe:
    *
    
OVERVIEW OF CHRONIC RISKS: These risk factors are essentially ...

Longstanding, Chronic Risk Factors: These factors place the person at an increased risk for suicidal behavior. They are relatively immutable trait type characteristics, exceptions being illnesses that enters remission.
OVERVIEW OF PREVIOUS ATTEMPTS: This is the single most significant ...

Previous Suicide Attempts: (Describe circumstances, stressors and means of previous suicide attempts, in particular the details of the most recent attempt prior to the current one, including response to treatment interventions):

SAMPLE PREVIOUS ATTEMPTS QUESTIONS: ...

☑️ Describe Previous Attempts:

OVERVIEW OF IMPULSIVITY: Impulsivity can not be underestimated as a ...

SAMPLE IMPULSIVITY QUESTIONS: ...

☑️ Impulsivity:
  - VIOLENCE: * ☐ YES ☐ NO
  - Verbal Aggression: * ☐ YES ☐ NO
  - Impulsive Behaviors: * ☐ YES ☐ NO
  - Head Injury: * ☐ YES ☐ NO

Describe (For ANY "Yes"):

☑️ Smoking: ☐ Yes ☐ No

* Indicates a Required Field
type characteristics, exceptions being illnesses that enters remission.

OVERVIEW OF PREVIOUS ATTEMPTS: This is the single most significant ...

Previous Suicide Attempts: (Describe circumstances, stressors and means of previous suicide attempts, in particular the details of the most recent attempt prior to the current one, including response to treatment interventions):

SAMPLE PREVIOUS ATTEMPTS QUESTIONS: ...

☐ Describe Previous Attempts:

SAMPLE PREVIOUS ATTEMPTS QUESTIONS:
- Have you ever tried to kill yourself before?
- Have you ever had an accident that was life threatening? (e.g. car accident, fall, accidental overdose, life threatening allergic reaction to a known allergen, etc.)

OVERVIEW OF IMPULSIVITY: Impul...

SAMPLE IMPULSIVITY QUESTIONS:
- How did you do it?
- What is your understanding of what led to the attempt?
- What was going on in your life at the time of your attempt?
- What enabled you to remain alive?
- How did you feel when you found out you survived?
- Who knew/knows about that attempt?
- Did you receive any treatment after that attempt?
- Did you make any changes in your life after your suicide attempt?
- Did the suicide attempt lead to any changes in your life?
- Were there any other suicide attempts?

☐ Impulsivity:
  ☐ YES  ☐ NO

  VIOLENCE:
  ☐ YES

  Verbal Aggression:  ☐ YES

  Impulsive Behaviors:  ☐ YES

  Head Injury:  ☐ YES

Describe (For ANY "Yes"): ...

OVERVIEW OF ILLNESS: Each of these diagnostic categories are ...

☐ Illness:
  ☐ Depression
  ☐ Psychosis
  ☐ Bipolar Disorder
  ☐ Cluster B Personality
  ☐ Substance Abuse
type characteristics, exceptions being illnesses that enters remission.

OVERVIEW OF PREVIOUS ATTEMPTS: This is the single most significant ...

Previous Suicide Attempts: (Describe circumstances, stressors and means of previous suicide attempts, in particular the details of the most recent attempt prior to the current one, including response to treatment interventions):

SAMPLE PREVIOUS ATTEMPTS QUESTIONS: ...

☐ Describe Previous Attempts:

OVERVIEW OF IMPULSIVITY: Impulsivity can not be underestimated as a ...

SAMPLE IMPULSIVITY QUESTIONS: ...

☐ Impulsivity:
  ☐ YES ☐ NO
  Violent Aggression:
  ☐ YES ☐ NO
  Verbal Aggression:
  ☐ YES ☐ NO
  Impulsive Behaviors:
  ☐ YES ☐ NO
  Head Injury:
  ☐ YES ☐ NO

Describe (For ANY "Yes"):

OVERVIEW OF IMPULSIVITY: Impulsivity can not be underestimated as a contributor to suicide risk (1-5). The impulsive/aggressive factor correlates with both acute and longer term risk (1). The above list is symptoms that correlate with impulsivity. Violence and verbal aggression (1-5), are the most significant on this list. Head injury is an actuarial factor associated with increased suicide risk, probably through its impact on impulsivity (1) and smoking is also a correlate (1), although it is possible that both of these affect impulsivity through alterations in serotonergic function. "Impulsive behaviors" is a broad category, which allows clinicians to assess impulsivity in variety of ways. The first is by diagnosis and behaviors. Cluster B personality disorder as well as substance abuse diagnoses correlate with impulsivity. Substance use is a sign of impulsivity, even if subthreshold for an abuse or dependence disorder. Gambling, bulimia, kleptomania are all impulse control disorders. Some sexual disorders, and paraphilias are another group of impulsive behaviors, which in and of themselves do not have a high correlation with suicidal behavior, but may be significant with the presence of other factors. Absence of all these factors does not prove absence of impulsivity, but is a fairly good approximation. The other method for looking at impulsivity is to use questions from an impulsivity scale, the most well accepted being Barrett's. These scales generally ask questions about the immediate need to act, restlessness, blunting out, impatience, instant gratification versus the ability to think and assess consequences before acting, and ability to delay gratification.
type characteristics, exceptions being illnesses that enters remission.

OVERVIEW OF PREVIOUS ATTEMPTS: This is the single most significant.

SAMPLE IMPULSIVITY QUESTIONS:
- Have you ever been angry with other people?
- Do you get angry more frequently than other people you know?
- When you get angry to express it verbally?
- Do you shout at other people? Curse?
- Do other people get afraid of you?
- Do you hit things, like punching a wall? Throw things? Break things?
- Have you ever thrown things at other people?
- Hit other people?
- Hurt someone when you hit them?
- Severely injured someone?
- Killed them?
- Been arrested for any of these acts?

SAMPLE PREVIOUS ATTEMPTS QUEST

☐ Describe Previous Attempts:

OVERVIEW OF IMPULSIVITY: Impu.

SAMPLE IMPULSIVITY QUESTIONS:

☐ Impulsivity:
  ☐ VIOLENCE: ☐ YES
  ☐ Verbal Aggression: ☐ YES
  ☐ Impulsive Behaviors: ☐ YES
  ☐ Head Injury: ☐ YES
  Describe (For ANY "Yes"):

☐ Smoking: ☐ YES ☐ NO

OVERVIEW OF ILLNESS: Each of t

☐ Illness:
  ☐ Depression
  ☐ Psychosis
  ☐ Bipolar Disorder
  ☐ Cluster B Personality
  ☐ Substance Abuse

And Specific impulsive behaviors?
- Do you smoke cigarettes?
- Do you drink alcohol?
- Do you use drugs?
- Do you binge on alcohol and drugs? (etc.)
- Do you overeat?
  - Binge eat?
  - Purge? (vomiting, laxatives, diuretics)
- Do you gamble?
  - Ever lose more than you want to?
  - More than you can afford?
- Do you think you have a greater need for sex than other people?
- Does this ever interfere with other areas of your life?
- Create problems with other people?
- Create problems for you?
OVERVIEW OF ILLNESS: Each of these diagnostic categories are ...

Illness: *
  - Depression
  - Psychosis
  - Bipolar Disorder
  - Cluster B Personality
  - Substance Abuse
  - Alcohol Abuse
  - Serious Medical Illness
  - Pain

Describe (Optional, Except for ANY Serious Medical Illnesses):

OVERVIEW ACUTE RISKS: In clinical situations we again tend to increase ...

Acute Factors: these are factors that place a person in a more acute risk of suicide. They are not as longstanding, tend to be more mutable, and are targets for treatment. When identified in a person at risk, the treatment plan should describe how these factors will be addressed.

<No encounter information entered>
Template: PSYCHIATRY SUICIDE ASSESSMENT

OVERVIEW OF SYMPTOMS: These are the symptoms that are most ...

- Symptoms: If you do not ask about a symptom, "Uncheck" the box next to that symptom.
  - Psychic Anxiety:
    - Yes
    - No
  - Sample Psychic Anxiety Questions: ...
  - Panic:
    - Yes
    - No
  - Sample Panic Questions: ...
  - Hopelessness/Demoralization:
    - Yes
    - No
  - Sample Questions on Hopelessness/Demoralization: ...
  - Insomnia:
    - Yes
    - No
  - Sample Insomnia Questions: ...
  - Obsessionality:
    - Yes
    - No
  - Sample Obsessionality Questions: ...
  - Alcohol Use:
    - Yes
    - No
  - Sample Alcohol Use Questions: ...
  - Hallucinations:
    - Yes
    - No
  - Sample Hallucination Questions: ...
  - Pain:
    - Yes
    - No
  - Sample Pain Questions: ...
  - Describe ALL "Yes" responses:
    - 

* Indicates a Required Field

Preview OK Cancel
OVERVIEW OF SYMPTOMS: These are the symptoms that are most...

- Psychiatric Anxiety: [ ] Yes [ ] No
  Sample Psychiatric Anxiety Questions: ...

- Panic: [ ] Yes [ ] No
  Sample Panic Questions: ...

- Hopelessness/Demoralization: [ ] Yes
  Sample Questions on Hopelessness...

- Insomnia: [ ] Yes [ ] No
  Sample Insomnia Questions: ...

- Obsessionality: [ ] Yes [ ] No
  Sample Obsessionality Questions: ...

- Alcohol Use: [ ] Yes [ ] No
  Sample Alcohol Use Questions: ...

- Hallucinations: [ ] Yes [ ] No
  Sample Hallucination Questions: ...

- Pain: [ ] Yes [ ] No
  Sample Pain Questions: ...

OVERVIEW OF SOCIAL RISKS: An acute risk factor for suicide is the...

Sample Social Questions: ...

Social (Check ALL that Apply):
OVERVIEW OF SYMPTOMS: These are the symptoms that are most ...

- Psychic Anxiety: (Yes) (No)
  Sample Psychic Anxiety Questions: ...

- Panic: (Yes) (No)
  Sample Panic Questions: ...

- Hopelessness/Demoralization: (Yes) (No)
  Sample Questions on Hopelessness/Demoralization: ...

- Insomnia: (Yes) (No)
  Sample Insomnia Questions: ...

- Obsessionality: (Yes) (No)
  Sample Obsessionality Questions: ...

- Alcohol Use: (Yes) (No)
  Sample Alcohol Use Questions: ...

- Hallucinations: (Yes) (No)
  Sample Hallucination Questions: ...

- Pain: (Yes) (No)
  Sample Pain Questions: ...

- Describe ALL "Yes" responses:

OVERVIEW OF SOCIAL RISKS: An acute risk factor for suicide is the ...

Sample Social Questions: ...

Social (Check ALL that Apply):
OVERVIEW OF SOCIAL RISKS: An acute risk factor for suicide is the ...

Sample Social Questions: ...

☑ Social (Check ALL that Apply):

- Poor Social Support
- Isolation
- Environmental Change
- Recent Discharge
- Recent Loss
- Acute Life Stressors
- Family History of Suicide
- Other

Describe Positive Responses:

OVERVIEW OF MEDICATIONS: Patients nonadherent with medication are at ...
OVERVIEW OF PERSONAL RISKS: In examining suicidal individuals, ...

Personal Risk Factors: Particular factors that have triggered previous suicidal behavior, or are leading to current suicide risk. May include idiosyncratic circumstances predictive only in this patient. This involves an individualized constellation of factors, usually both chronic factors and a combination of acute factors that have led to current or previous suicidal impulses and/or the attempts described above, if applicable.

- Personal Risk Factors:
  - Describe (Required):

Firearms are the most common means for completing suicide in the United States for both men and women, and the environmental factor that most increases the risk of completing suicide.

Sample Firearms Questions: ...

- Firearms:
  - Currently Available:  ○ Yes  ○ No
  - If "Yes", is access restricted/removed:  ○ Yes  ○ No
  - Describe:

Other methods while not as dangerous as firearms, when available increase the risk. This is particularly true when patients have a plan with available means, or have their preferred means available and are highly impulsive.
Sample Firearms Questions

- Do you own a gun?
  - Where is it?
- Can you have a family member/friend turn it into a police station?
- Can you give it to a family member/friend for safekeeping?
- Can you remove it from the house?
- Will you remove the ammunition from the house?
- Can we call that person now to do this?
- How will we go about doing this?
Access to Other Means:
Currently Available:  Yes  No
If "Yes", is access restricted/removed:  Yes  No
Describe:

OVERVIEW OF MITIGATING CIRCUMSTANCES: These are all the factors that ...
Sample Mitigating Circumstances Questions: ...

Mitigating Circumstances:

OVERVIEW OF OVERALL RISK: There is no fixed formula for determining ...
OVERVIEW OF OVERALL RISK ASSESSMENT: The assessment has two tasks. ...
Category of Risk (The first check off is if there are acute factors, identified above, currently active that need to be addressed):

OVERVIEW OF OVERALL ACUTE RISKS: This concretely identifies those ...
Acute Factors Current:  YES  NO

The next two categories refer predominantly to the long-term or life-long type risk, rather than aspects of more acute suicide risk.

OVERVIEW OF BASELINE/LIMITED RISKS: Baseline Increased Risk is related ...
Baseline Increased Risk  Limited Risk
Interventions and Plan:

Containment:
- Family agrees to observe patient
- Other social support (e.g., residence staff) agrees to observe patient
- Removal of means
- Initiate emergency hold
- Admit to inpatient care
- Place patient on 1:1 observation

Arrange Continuing Care:
- Arrange Outpatient Follow-up
- Patient to be seen within 24 hours
- New Referral/Sort

Describe all details:

OVERVIEW OF RISK FACTORS ADDRESSED: In identifying the risk factors ...

Treatment of Risk Factors:

Acute Factors Addressed:
- Symptoms
- Environmental Factors
- Medication Factors

Treatment of Underlying Psychiatric Disorders:
- Medication Change or Adjustment
- Psychotherapeutic Change or Adjustment

Describe if contact made with family/social support:

Veteran response to changes:
- Positive
- Negative
- Neutral
Template: PSYCHIATRY SUICIDE ASSESSMENT

Arrange Continuing Care:
- Arrange Outpatient Followup
- Patient to be seen within 24 hours
- New Referrals Sent

Describe all Details:

OVERVIEW OF RISK FACTORS ADDRESSED: In identifying the risk factors ...

Treatment of Risk Factors:

Acute Factors Addressed:
- Symptoms
- Environmental Factors
- Medication Factors

Treatment of Underlying Psychiatric Disorders:
- Medication Change or Adjustment
- Psychotherapeutic Changes or Adjustment
Current Suicidal Ideation/Intent/Plan: 
(Patient may be at risk for suicide without voicing ideation, intent, or plan)

Ideation: Yes
If Ideation is "NO" UNCHICK"!!!
If 'Yes':
   Passive: Yes
   Active: No
   Intent: Yes
   Plan: Yes
Describe:
Elah, Blah

Describe Previous Attempts:
Elah, Blah

Impulsivity:
VIOLENCE: YES
Verbal Aggression: NO
Impulsive Behaviors: YES
Head Injury: NO
Describe (For ANY "Yes"):
Elah, Blah
Smoking: Yes

Illness: Depression, Psychosis, Bipolar Disorder, Cluster B Personality,