

SAFE-T Protocol with C-SSRS (Columbia Risk and Protective Factors) Lifetime/Recent - Youth

Step 1: Identify Risk Factors		
C-SSCS Suicidal Ideation Severity	Month	Lifetime (Worst)
1) Wish to be dead <i>Have you wished that you could go to sleep and never wake up or that you were dead?</i>		
2) Current suicidal thoughts <i>Have you thought about killing yourself?</i>		
3) Suicidal thoughts w/ Method (w/no specific Plan or Intent or act) <i>Did you think about ways you could kill yourself?</i>		
4) Suicidal Intent without Specific Plan <i>Some people think about killing themselves but know they would NEVER do it. Others think about killing themselves and think that they might do something.</i> <i>Was there a time when you thought about killing yourself and it was something you MIGHT do, even if you weren't completely sure?</i>		
5) Intent with Plan <i>Did you make a plan for how you would kill yourself (things like when, how, and where) and, even if you weren't completely sure when you made this plan, was it something that you thought you MIGHT do?</i>		
C-SSRS Suicidal Behavior: Have you <u>EVER</u> tried to kill yourself, started to do something to kill yourself or done anything to get ready to kill yourself? Examples: Collected pills, obtained a gun, gave away valuables, wrote a will or suicide note, took out pills but didn't swallow any, held a gun but changed your mind or it was grabbed from your hand, went to the roof but didn't jump; or actually took pills, tried to shoot yourself, cut yourself, tried to hang yourself, etc.	3 Months	Lifetime
Activating Events: ☐ Recent losses or other significant negative event(s) (break-up death divorce, etc.) ☐ Exposure to suicide of peer ☐ Disciplinary crisis (incarceration or expulsion) ☐ Victim of bullying, cyberbullying or school violence ☐ Truancy or runaway behaviors ☐ Victim of hate crime or police brutality Parental/Family Risk Factors: ☐ Parent with mood disorder symptoms ☐ Parent with legal problems ☐ Family history of suicide (lifetime) ☐ Poor parent/child attachment/parental rejection Treatment History: ☐ Previous psychiatric diagnosis and treatments ☐ Hopeless or dissatisfied with treatment ☐ Non-compliant with treatment ☐ Not receiving treatment ☐ Insomnia	Clinical Status: ☐ Hopelessness ☐ Major depressive episode ☐ Mixed affect episode (e.g. Bipolar) ☐ Command Hallucinations to hurt self ☐ Chronic physical pain or other acute medical problem (e.g. CNS disorders) ☐ Highly impulsive behavior, reckless ☐ Substance abuse or dependence ☐ Agitation or severe anxiety ☐ Perceived burden on family or others ☐ Homicidal Ideation, perpetrator of violence ☐ Aggressive/Disruptive behavior ☐ Refuses or feels unable to agree to safety plan ☐ Sexual abuse, physical abuse or dating violence (lifetime) ☐ Self-injurious behavior without suicidal intent ☐ Sleep Disturbance ☐ Eating disorder ☐ Sexually Transmitted Disease Other: ☐ _____ ☐ _____	
☐ Access to lethal methods: Ask <u>specifically</u> about presence or absence of a firearm in the home or workplace or ease of accessing		

Step 2: Identify Protective Factors (Protective factors may not counteract significant acute suicide risk factors)		
Internal: ☐ Fear of death or dying due to pain and suffering ☐ Identifies reasons for living ☐ High academic achievement ☐ _____ ☐ _____	External: ☐ Belief that suicide is immoral; high spirituality ☐ Responsibility to family or others; living with family ☐ Supportive social network of family or friends ☐ Engaged in work, school or sports ☐ Strong minority-group identification	
Step 3: Specific questioning about Thoughts, Plans, and Suicidal Intent – (see Step 1 for Ideation Severity and Behavior)		
C-SSRS Suicidal Ideation Intensity (with respect to the most severe ideation identified above)	Month	Lifetime (Worst)
Frequency How many times have you had these thoughts? (1) Less than once a week (2) Once a week (3) 2-5 times in week (4) Daily or almost daily (5) Many times each day		
Duration When you have the thoughts how long do they last? (1) Fleeting - few seconds or minutes (4) 4-8 hours/most of day (2) Less than 1 hour/some of the time (5) More than 8 hours/persistent or continuous (3) 1-4 hours/a lot of time		
Controllability Could/can you stop thinking about killing yourself or wanting to die if you want to? (1) Easily able to control thoughts (4) Can control thoughts with a lot of difficulty (2) Can control thoughts with little difficulty (5) Unable to control thoughts (3) Can control thoughts with some difficulty (0) Does not attempt to control thoughts		
Deterrents Are there things - anyone or anything (e.g., family, religion, pain of death) - that stopped you from wanting to die or acting on thoughts of committing suicide? (1) Deterrents definitely stopped you from attempting suicide (4) Deterrents most likely did not stop you (2) Deterrents probably stopped you (5) Deterrents definitely did not stop you (3) Uncertain that deterrents stopped you (0) Does not apply		
Reasons for Ideation What sort of reasons did you have for thinking about wanting to die or killing yourself? Was it to end the pain or stop the way you were feeling (in other words you couldn't go on living with this pain or how you were feeling) or was it to get attention, revenge or a reaction from others? Or both? (1) Completely to get attention, revenge or a reaction from others (4) Mostly to end or stop the pain (you couldn't go on living with the pain or how you were feeling) (2) Mostly to get attention, revenge or a reaction from others (5) Completely to end or stop the pain (you couldn't go on living with the pain or how you were feeling) (3) Equally to get attention, revenge or a reaction from others and to end/stop the pain (0) Does not apply		
Total Score		
Notes: Behaviors: ☐ Preparatory Acts (e.g., buying pills, purchasing a gun, giving things away, writing a suicide note) ☐ Aborted/self-interrupted attempts, ☐ Interrupted attempts and ☐ Actual attempts ☐ Assess for the presence of non-suicidal self-injurious behavior (e.g. cutting, hair pulling, cuticle biting, skin picking) particularly among adolescents and young adults, and especially among those with a history of mood or externalizing disorders ☐ For Youths: ask parents/guardian about evidence of suicidal thoughts, plans or behaviors and changes in mood, behaviors or disposition ☐ Assess for homicidal ideation, plan behavior and intent particularly in: ☐ character disordered males dealing with separation, especially if paranoid, or impulsivity disorders		

Step 4: Guidelines to Determine Level of Risk and Develop Interventions to LOWER Risk Level

"The estimation of suicide risk, at the culmination of the suicide assessment, is the quintessential **clinical judgment**, since no study has identified one specific risk factor or set of risk factors as specifically predictive of suicide or other suicidal behavior."

From The American Psychiatric Association Practice Guidelines for the Assessment and Treatment of Patients with Suicidal Behaviors, page 24.

RISK STRATIFICATION	TRIAGE
High Risk ☐ Suicidal ideation with intent or intent with plan in past month (C-SSRS Suicidal Ideation #4 or #5) Or ☐ Suicidal behavior within past 3 months (C-SSRS Suicidal Behavior)	☐ Initiate local psychiatric assessment process ☐ Stay with patient until transfer to higher level of care is complete ☐ Follow-up and document outcome of emergency psychiatric evaluation
Moderate Risk ☐ Suicidal ideation with method WITHOUT plan, intent or behavior in past month (C-SSRS screen #3) Or ☐ Suicidal behavior more than 3 months ago (C-SSRS Suicidal Behavior) Or ☐ Multiple risk factors and few protective factors	☐ Use clinical judgement to determine if further evaluation is necessary ☐ Outpatient Referral
Low Risk ☐ Wish to die or suicidal thoughts (C-SSRS Suicidal Ideation #1 and/or #2) no method, plan, intent or behavior Or ☐ Suicidal ideation more than 1 month ago (C-SSRS screen #1-5) Or ☐ Modifiable risk factors and strong protective factors Or ☐ No reported history of Suicidal Ideation or Behavior	☐ Outpatient Referral

Step 5: Document Level of Risk, Rationale for Risk Assignment, Intervention and Structured Follow Up Plan (to be developed)

Risk Level :

☐ High Risk ☐ Moderate Risk ☐ Low Risk Suicidal

Clinical Note:

- ☐ Your Clinical Observation
- ☐ Relevant Mental Status Information
- ☐ Methods of Suicide Risk Evaluation
- ☐ Brief Evaluation Summary
 - ☐ Warning Signs
 - ☐ Risk Indicators
 - ☐ Protective Factors
 - ☐ Access to Lethal Means
 - ☐ Collateral Sources Used and Relevant Information Obtained
 - ☐ Specific Assessment Data to Support Risk Determination
 - ☐ Rationale for Actions Taken and Not Taken
- ☐ Provision of Crisis Line 988
- ☐ Implementation of Safety Plan (If Applicable)