

Suicide Prevention Procedure – BASED on Suicide Risk Level

If a concern for major depression with or without suicidal ideation is raised the following STEPS should be initiated. Steps are followed as appropriate for the situation.

It's important that you are aware of your role in preventing patient suicides. MISH is not a behavioral health facility – patients with suicidal ideation are transferred ASAP to an appropriate facility for treatment.

[] STEP 1.

Initiate a mental health screen using the “**Mental Health Screen**” form. Use the **Mental Health Screen Scoring Guide** to score the questionnaire.

[] STEP 2.

Complete the **Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-9)** section (depression severity screen) on the screen form first.

[] STEP 3.

Score the PHQ-9 questionnaire. If the score is:

(15-19) **Moderate severe depression** or
(20-27) **Severe depression**,
and/or indicated **suicidal ideation**:

- a. Continue with the **C-SSRS Screen**. (*use Mental Health Screen Scoring guide when have questions*)
- b. Make attending physician aware of the score and that it needs to be reviewed by a provider, or directly consult medicine for an evaluation of patient for suicide risk.

[] STEP 4.

Score the C-SSRS questionnaire.

a. If Score = **Low Suicide Risk []** :

- i. Attending physician notified and/or medicine consult obtained. Document communication/notification
- ii. Provider reviews/verifies Mental Health Screen Form and signs off on it
- iii. Provider assists with completing an Individual Patient Suicide Safety Plan and arranging for follow-up
- iv. Consider connecting patient with - The Lifeline (Free Crisis Hotline): 1-800-273-8255
- v. Prior to discharge patient must have:
 1. an individual Suicide Safety Plan completed
 2. an appointment made with his/her GP or a Behavioral Health referral or appointment

b. If Score = **Moderate Suicide Risk []** :

- vi. Provider notified and/or medicine consult obtained - **URGENTLY**
- vii. Provider reviews/verifies Mental Health Screen Form and signs off on it
- viii. Consider connecting patient with - The Lifeline (Free Crisis Hotline): 1-800-273-8255
- ix. Provider:
 1. must decide if “Patient Safety Precautions” are indicated and should be implemented immediately – refer to LIP Quick Suicide Guide
 2. must assists with completing an Individual Patient Suicide Safety Plan - refer to LIP Quick Suicide Guide
 3. must arrange for a behavioral health consult with follow-up or transfer to an ER/behavioral healthcare facility when possible..
- x. Prior to discharge patient must have:
 1. an individual Suicide Safety Plan completed

2. a follow-up appointment made with Behavioral Health
 - v. After discharge – in the next 24-48hrs a follow-up phone call with patient is made to confirm patient is doing well and will keep to follow-up plan.
- c. If Score = **High Suicide Risk []** :
- xi. Provider notified and/or medicine consult obtained **STAT**
 - xii. Do not leave patient un-attended till provider arrives
 - xiii. Initiate 1:1 patient suicide watch till provider arrives and evaluates patient
 - xiv. Consider connecting patient with - The Lifeline (Free Crisis Hotline): 1-800-273-8255
 - xv. Provider reviews/verifies Mental Health Screen Form and signs off on it - refer to LIP Quick Suicide Guide
 - xvi. Provider:
 1. must decide if full **“Suicide Patient Safety Precautions”** are indicated and should be implemented immediately – see below
 2. writes order for Initiate *Suicide Patient Safety Precautions*
 3. must assists with completing an Individual Patient Suicide Safety Plan
 4. must arrange for a behavioral health consult, with follow-up or transfer to an ER/behavioral healthcare facility when possible.
 - xvii. Prior to discharge patient must have:
 1. an individual Suicide Safety Plan completed
 2. a follow-up appointment made with Behavioral Health
 - v. After discharge – in the next 24-48hrs a follow-up phone call with patient is made to confirm patient is doing well and is keeping to follow-up plan.