

SAFE-T Protocol with C-SSRS - Recent

Step 1: Identify Risk Factors	
C-SSRS Suicidal Ideation Severity	Month
1) Wish to be dead <i>Have you wished you were dead or wished you could go to sleep and not wake up?</i>	
2) Current suicidal thoughts <i>Have you actually had any thoughts of killing yourself?</i>	
3) Suicidal thoughts w/ Method (w/no specific Plan or Intent or act) <i>Have you been thinking about how you might do this?</i>	
4) Suicidal Intent without Specific Plan <i>Have you had these thoughts and had some intention of acting on them?</i>	
5) Intent with Plan <i>Have you started to work out or worked out the details of how to kill yourself? Do you intend to carry out this plan?</i>	
C-SSRS Suicidal Behavior: <i>"Have you ever done anything, started to do anything, or prepared to do anything to end your life?"</i> 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. If "YES" Was it within the past 3 months?	Lifetime Past 3 Months
Current and Past Psychiatric Dx: <input type="checkbox"/> Mood Disorder <input type="checkbox"/> Psychotic disorder <input type="checkbox"/> Alcohol/substance abuse disorders <input type="checkbox"/> PTSD <input type="checkbox"/> ADHD <input type="checkbox"/> TBI <input type="checkbox"/> Cluster B Personality disorders or traits (i.e., Borderline, Antisocial, Histrionic & Narcissistic) <input type="checkbox"/> Conduct problems (antisocial behavior, aggression, impulsivity) <input type="checkbox"/> Recent onset Presenting Symptoms: <input type="checkbox"/> Anhedonia <input type="checkbox"/> Impulsivity <input type="checkbox"/> Hopelessness or despair <input type="checkbox"/> Anxiety and/or panic <input type="checkbox"/> Insomnia <input type="checkbox"/> Command hallucinations <input type="checkbox"/> Psychosis	Family History: <input type="checkbox"/> Suicide <input type="checkbox"/> Suicidal behavior <input type="checkbox"/> Axis I psychiatric diagnoses requiring hospitalization Precipitants/Stressors: <input type="checkbox"/> Triggering events leading to humiliation, shame, and/or despair (e.g. Loss of relationship, financial or health status) (real or anticipated) <input type="checkbox"/> Chronic physical pain or other acute medical problem (e.g. CNS disorders) <input type="checkbox"/> Sexual/physical abuse <input type="checkbox"/> Substance intoxication or withdrawal <input type="checkbox"/> Pending incarceration or homelessness <input type="checkbox"/> Legal problems <input type="checkbox"/> Inadequate social supports <input type="checkbox"/> Social isolation <input type="checkbox"/> Perceived burden on others Change in treatment: <input type="checkbox"/> Recent inpatient discharge <input type="checkbox"/> Change in provider or treatment (i.e., medications, psychotherapy, milieu) <input type="checkbox"/> Hopeless or dissatisfied with provider or treatment <input type="checkbox"/> Non-compliant or not receiving treatment
<input type="checkbox"/> Access to lethal methods: Ask <u>specifically</u> about presence or absence of a firearm in the home or ease of accessing	

Step 2: Identify Protective Factors (Protective factors may not counteract significant acute suicide risk factors)

Internal:

- Ability to cope with stress
- Frustration tolerance
- Religious beliefs
- Fear of death or the actual act of killing self
- Identifies reasons for living

External:

- Cultural, spiritual and/or moral attitudes against suicide
- Responsibility to children
- Beloved pets
- Supportive social network of family or friends
- Positive therapeutic relationships
- Engaged in work or school

Step 3: Specific questioning about Thoughts, Plans, and Suicidal Intent – (see Step 1 for Ideation Severity and Behavior)

If semi-structured interview is preferred to complete this section, clinicians may opt to complete C-SSRS [Lifetime/Recent](#) for comprehensive behavior/lethality assessment.

C-SSRS Suicidal Ideation Intensity (with respect to the most severe ideation 1-5 identified above)

Month

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 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

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
<p style="text-align: center;">High Suicide Risk</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Suicidal ideation with intent or intent with plan in past month (C-SSRS Suicidal Ideation #4 or #5)</p> <p>Or</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Suicidal behavior within past 3 months (C-SSRS Suicidal Behavior)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Initiate local psychiatric admission process</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Stay with patient until transfer to higher level of care is complete</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Follow-up and document outcome of emergency psychiatric evaluation</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Moderate Suicide Risk</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Suicidal ideation with method, WITHOUT plan, intent or behavior in past month (C-SSRS Suicidal Ideation #3)</p> <p>Or</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Suicidal behavior more than 3 months ago (C-SSRS Suicidal Behavior Lifetime)</p> <p>Or</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Multiple risk factors and few protective factors</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Directly address suicide risk, implementing suicide prevention strategies</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Develop Safety Plan</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Low Suicide Risk</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Wish to die or Suicidal Ideation WITHOUT method, intent, plan or behavior (C-SSRS Suicidal Ideation #1 or #2)</p> <p>Or</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Modifiable risk factors and strong protective factors</p> <p>Or</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No reported history of Suicidal Ideation or Behavior</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Discretionary Outpatient Referral</p>

Step 5: Documentation

Risk Level :

- High Suicide Risk
- Moderate Suicide Risk
- Low Suicide Risk

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 1-800-273-TALK(8255)
- Implementation of Safety Plan (If Applicable)