



# Suicide Ideations

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*Giving people the freedom  
to remain at home*



# Introductions

## Dawn Futris MSHI, BSN, RN

- ▶ Senior Quality Manager JourneyCare
- ▶ 30 years in Home Health & Hospice
- ▶ 10 years in Quality



## Nicole Dappert BSN, RN, WCC, CHPN

- ▶ Clinical Informatic Director JourneyCare
- ▶ 15 years in Hospice
- ▶ 5 years in Informatics



## Joshua Kaplan-Lyman MSW

- ▶ Social Worker at Promedica
- ▶ 4 years in Hospice
- ▶ 10 years as SW





JourneyCare  
Serving 13 counties  
Chicago & Northern Illinois  
Hospice  
Palliative Care

# Conflict of Interest

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As required, we would like to inform you that we have no bias or conflict(s) of interest



# Session Objectives

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Recognize suicide risk factors and the suicide spectrum

Follow the Lean Process approach utilized to build and update Suicide Ideations process

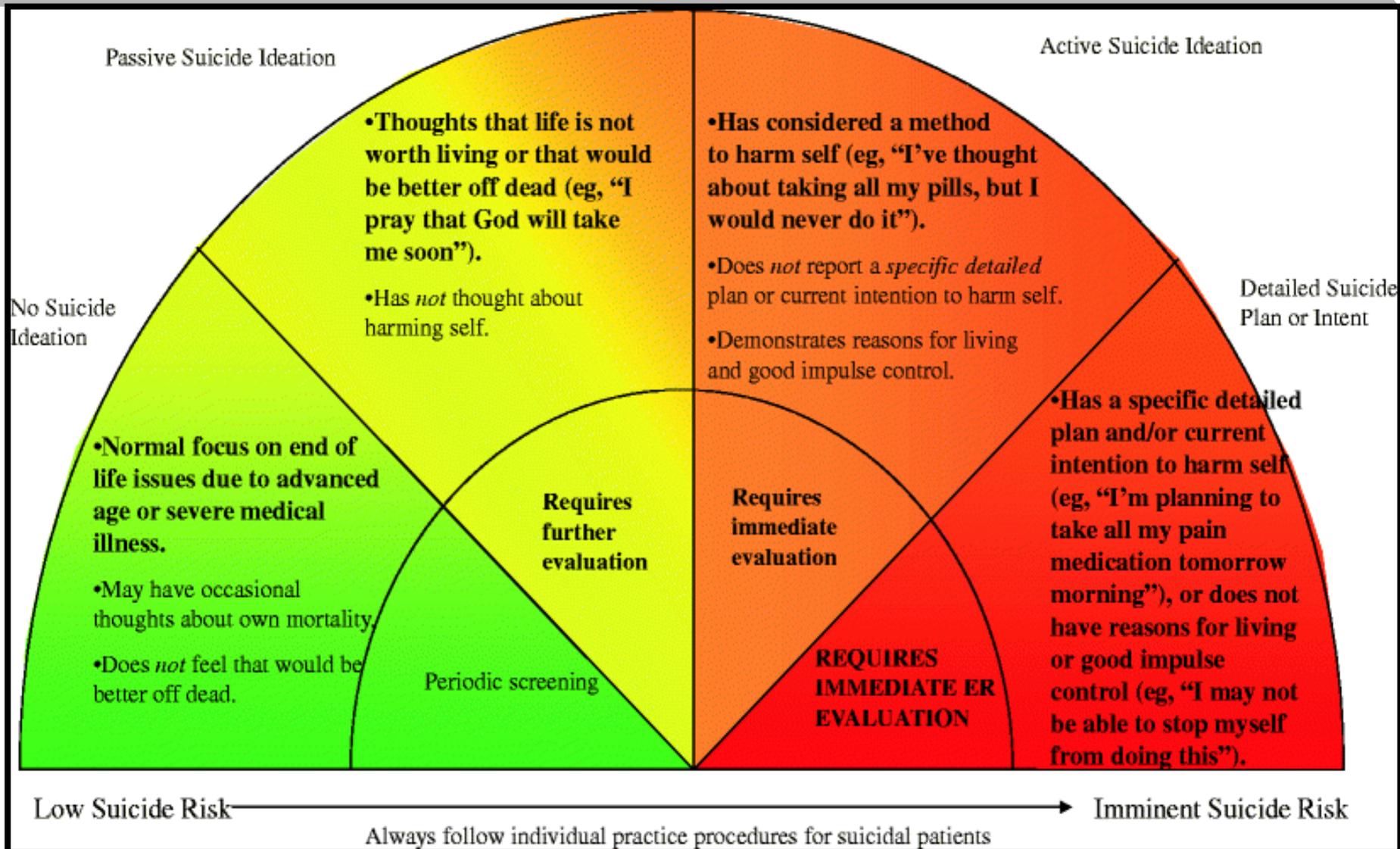
Discover technological & paper tools to assist staff in identifying risk and developing suicide ideations interventions and plan of care





# Suicide Risk Factors & Suicide Spectrum

# Suicide Risk Spectrum



# Passive Vs. Active



## Suicidal Ideation

This is the psychiatric term used for thoughts about suicide

### Passive suicidal ideation

- feeling like you'd be better off dead
- not thinking about doing anything to speed that along

### Active suicidal ideation

- thinking about specifics of how to kill yourself, e.g. how, when, and where
- intending to follow through

**GET HELP**

[mentalhealthathome.org](http://mentalhealthathome.org)



# Warning Signs and Risk Factors

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Warning signs are indications that someone may be thinking about or planning a suicide attempt

Require immediate intervention

Risk factors are conditions or characteristics that one holds that correlate with higher likelihood of suicidality

Risk Factors are not determinative but may indicate increased monitoring of warning signs



# WARNING SIGNS OF SUICIDE:

The behaviors listed below may be some of the signs that someone is thinking about suicide.

## TALKING ABOUT:



- ▷ Wanting to die
- ▷ Great guilt or shame
- ▷ Being a burden to others

## FEELING:



- ▷ Empty, hopeless, trapped, or having no reason to live
- ▷ Extremely sad, more anxious, agitated, or full of rage
- ▷ Unbearable emotional or physical pain

## CHANGING BEHAVIOR, SUCH AS:



- ▷ Making a plan or researching ways to die
- ▷ Withdrawing from friends, saying good bye, giving away important items, or making a will
- ▷ Taking dangerous risks such as driving extremely fast
- ▷ Displaying extreme mood swings
- ▷ Eating or sleeping more or less
- ▷ Using drugs or alcohol more often

**If these warning signs apply to you or someone you know, get help as soon as possible, particularly if the behavior is new or has increased recently.**

**National Suicide Prevention Lifeline  
1-800-273-TALK**

**Crisis Text Line  
Text "HELLO" to 741741**



National Institute  
of Mental Health

[www.nimh.nih.gov/suicideprevention](http://www.nimh.nih.gov/suicideprevention)

NIMH Identifier No. OM 19-4316

# Risk Factors

More common with men

Social Isolation

Chronic Illness

Higher in veterans, LGBTQ+, attempt survivors, loss survivors, and disaster survivors.

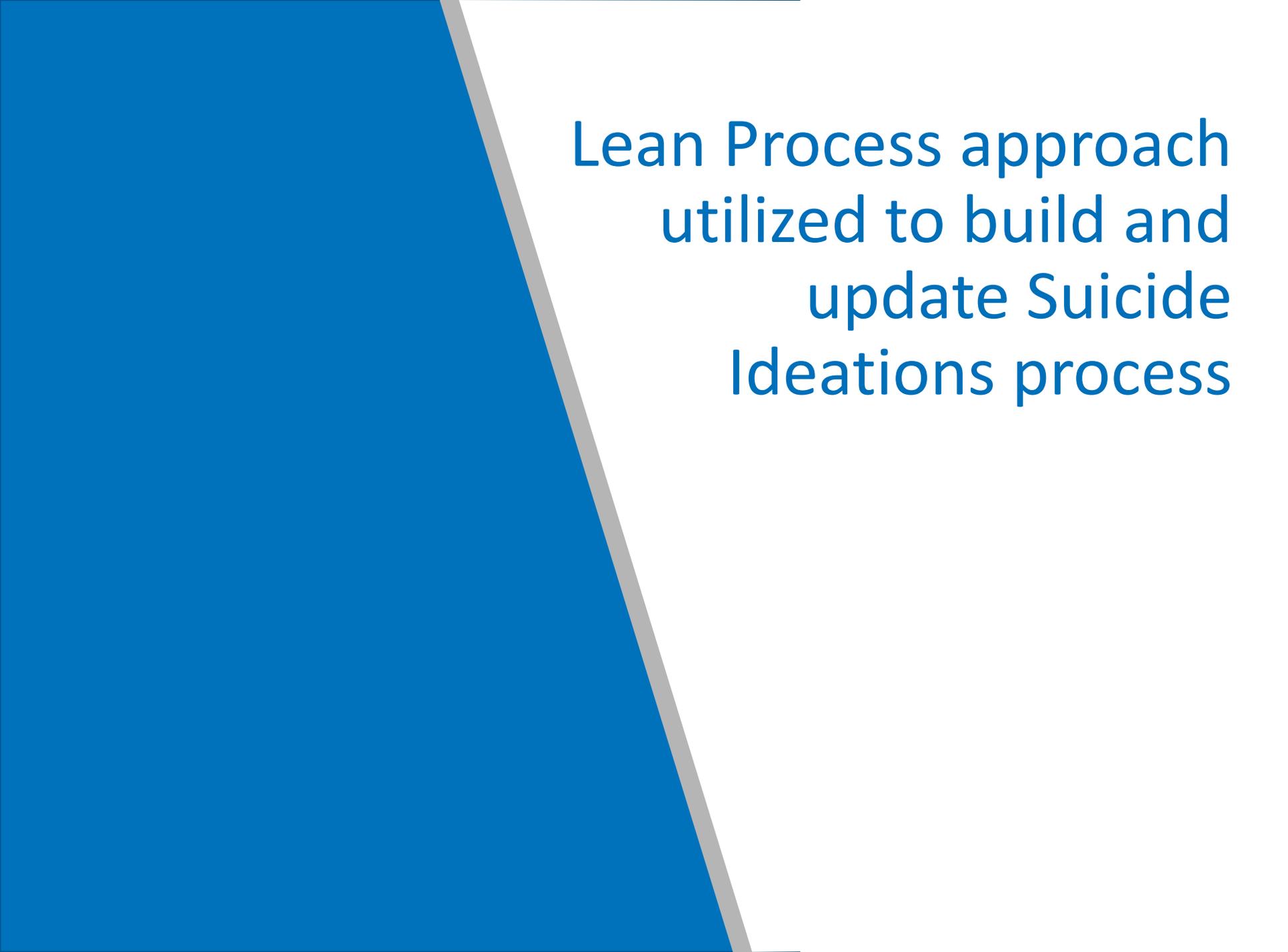
Pre-existing mental health history

Family history of suicide

Hospice patients

Financial Distress



The image features a solid blue background on the left side, which is separated from the white background on the right by a diagonal grey line. The text is positioned on the white background.

Lean Process approach  
utilized to build and  
update Suicide  
Ideations process

# What is Lean/A3 Methodology?

## A3 Process Improvement Methodology

### 1. Reason for Action

- *What is the issue?*
- *Why is it important?*
- *Scope*

### 4. Gap Analysis

- *Understand and define the problem*
- *What is the root cause?*

### 7. Completion Plans

- *Actions defined with owners and dates*
- *Track progress*

### 2. Initial State

- *Understand current process & data*
- *Understand waste and variation*

### 5. Solution Approach

- *What needs to be put in place to address the root causes?*
- *Develop hypothesis*

### 8. Confirmed State

- *Evaluating success and sustainability*
- *Have we achieved our target state (box 3)?*

### 3. Target State

- *Improved process goal & Barriers*
- *Data goals*

### 6. Rapid Experiments

- *Testing the hypothesis*
- *Short tests of ideas*
- *Okay to fail*

### 9. Insights

- *Lessons learned*
- *Reflections*
- *Other applications?*



# Ground Rules Example

Ground rules  
We are all equals

Ground rules  
No Silo Thinking

Ground rules  
No Outside Interruptions

Ground rules  
Get good data & add gut check

Ground rules  
Be Creative

Ground rules  
Seek wisdom of 10, not knowledge of 1

Ground rules  
No finger pointing, blaming, or judgement

Ground rules  
Think yes instead of No

Ground rules  
Keep an open mind, Challenge everything

Ground rules  
Avoid the rabbit hole

Ground rules  
Have Fun

Ground rules  
Anything else



# Team Member Roles Tool



Sponsor (Not on team)	Champion	Process Owner	Team Members	Quality Advisors (Sensi)	Facilitator	Recorder	Adjunct Members
<p>Identifies Oversight</p> <p>Understands the project well</p> <p>Removes barriers &amp; allocates resources</p> <p>Rewards &amp; recognizes</p>	<p>Ensures changes are sustainable after project closure</p> <p>Has courage to ask the hard questions</p>	<p>Owens testing &amp; implementing</p> <p>Ensures timely tasks completion</p> <p>Reports to process leaders</p> <p>Implements corrective actions to address negative performance trends</p>	<p>Ambassadors</p> <p>“Real” work expert</p> <p>Brings info to and from co-workers</p> <p>Runs tests &amp; collects data</p>	<p>Supports &amp; advises</p> <p>Reports successes</p> <p>Helps leaders interpret data</p>	<p>Coordinate meetings</p> <p>Project Process Owner</p> <p>Monitors present &amp; plans next steps</p> <p>Challenges thought processes</p>	<p>Scribe</p> <p>Takes attendance</p> <p>Documents discussion, action plan</p>	<p>Ad hoc consultants</p> <p>Knowledge experts</p> <p>Observers</p>

# Suicide Ideations Reason for Action & initial State

1



Reason for Action

2



Initial State

3

Target State

## Reason for Action:

- 2 known suicide ideation events in one year
- 1 Suicide attempt

**Aim Statement:** We want patients with suicide ideations to feel safe, supported, and feel there is an avenue to get the care they need so they do not feel suicide is an option.

## Initial Internal Data-CAHPS

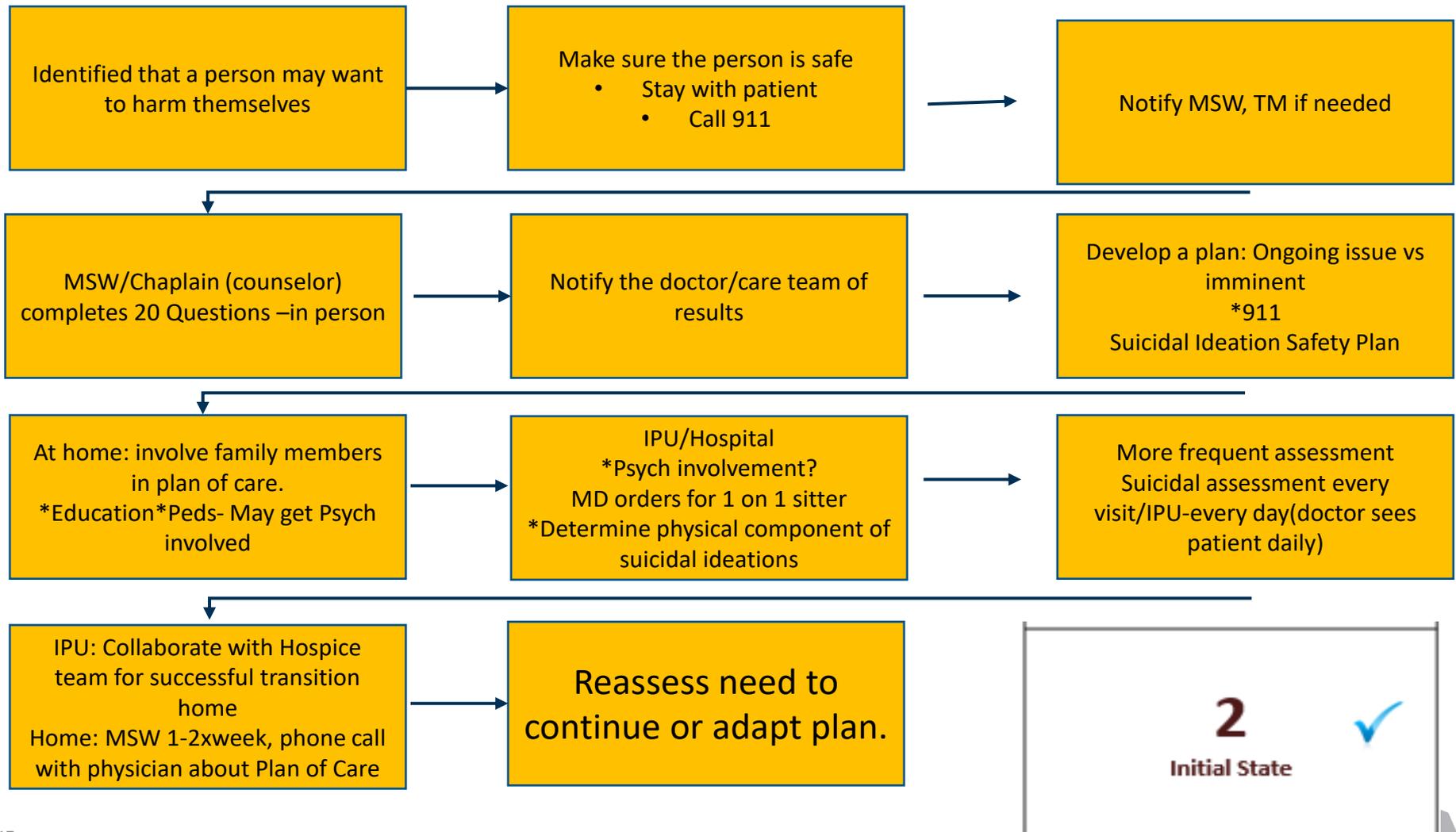
- Would You Recommend
- Excellent Rating
- Help for anxiety/sadness
- Training to Care for patients

## Initial External Data

- Suicide #10 leading cause of death nationally
- Hospice & chronic illness patients more prone to suicide than general public



# Suicide Ideations Initial State



# Suicide Ideations Target State

**1**

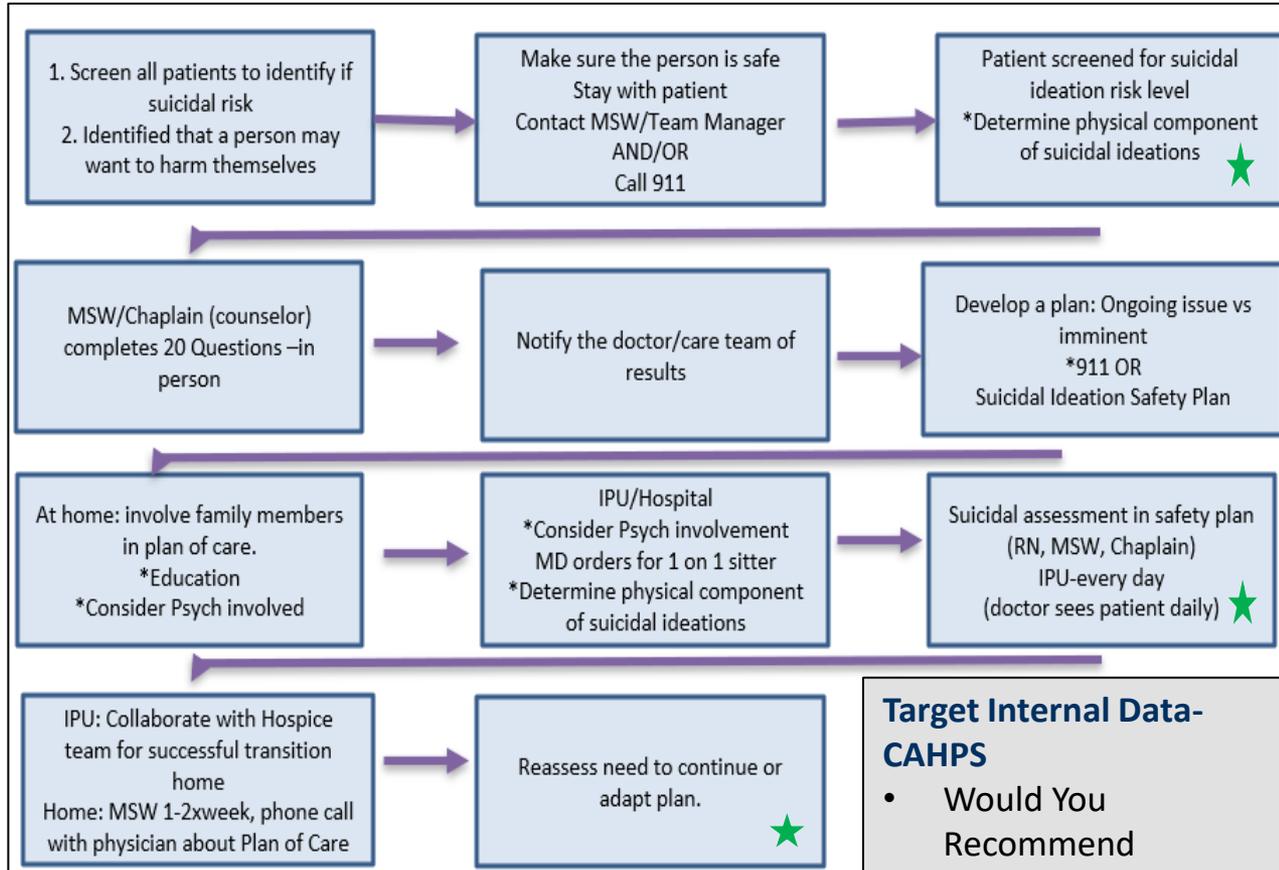
**Reason for Action**

**2**

**Initial State**

**3**

**Target State**



## Target Internal Data-CAHPS

- Would You Recommend
- Excellent Rating
- Help for anxiety/sadness
- Training to Care for patients
- Process Measures

# Barriers

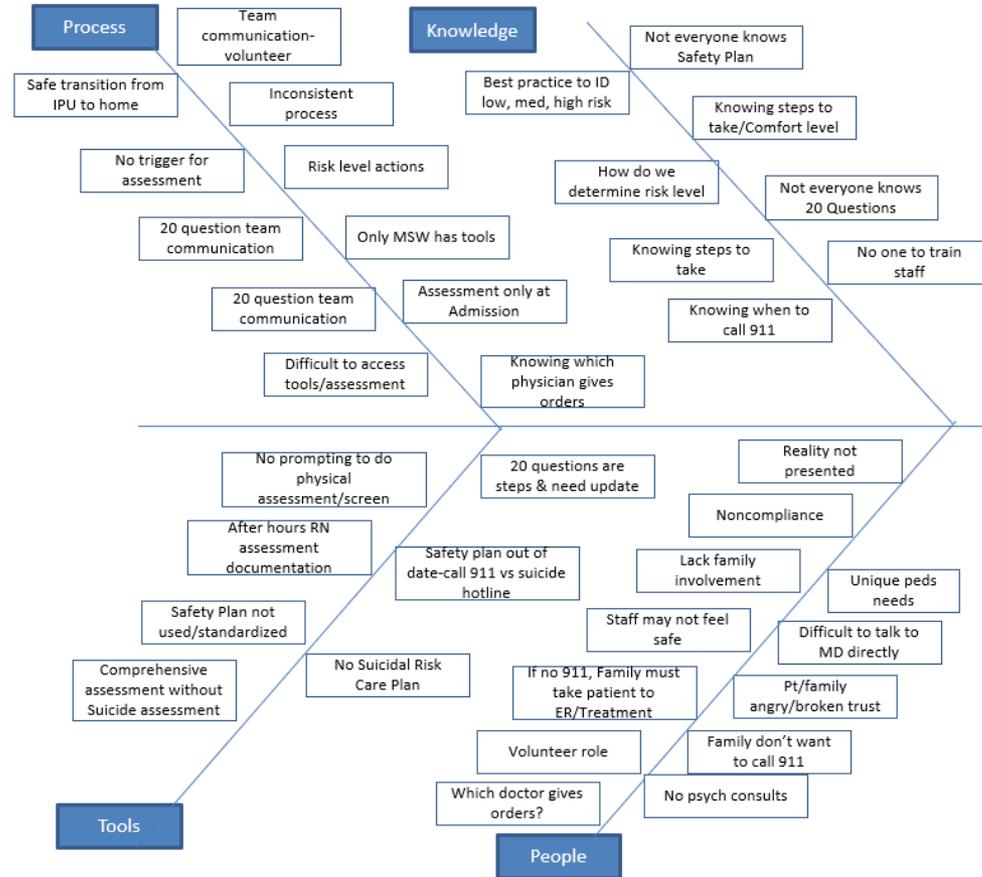
Method	Mother Nature	Material	Machine	Measure	Man
Policies, procedures, protocols	Factors outside our control	Supplies, information	Equipment or technology	Metrics for process or outcome	Human factors, training



# Suicide Ideations Gap Analysis

4	
<b>Gap Analysis</b>	
<b>5</b>	
<b>Solution Approach</b>	
<b>6</b>	
<b>Rapid Experiments</b>	

## Direct Causes



Patients with suicidal ideations may not feel safe, supported, and may not believe there is an avenue to obtain the care that is necessary so that suicide not an option.



# Box 4: Gap Analysis

## Direct Cause vs Root Cause Information

What gets in the way of us achieving the target state?

**Direct Cause:** the initial reason, what you can see. It is often mistaken for the root cause.

- ▶ Identifying just the Direct Cause can lead to problem → solution thinking

**Root Cause:** the underlying cause of the problem, not usually understood without deeper investigation.

- ▶ Only when the root cause is identified can the “real” problem be solved for.

**Root Cause Tool:** Asking “why” 5 times usually reveals the root cause

*Improvements often fail because  
we solve direct cause rather than root cause*



# Suicide Ideations Root Causes



## Root Causes

### 1. How do we determine risk level

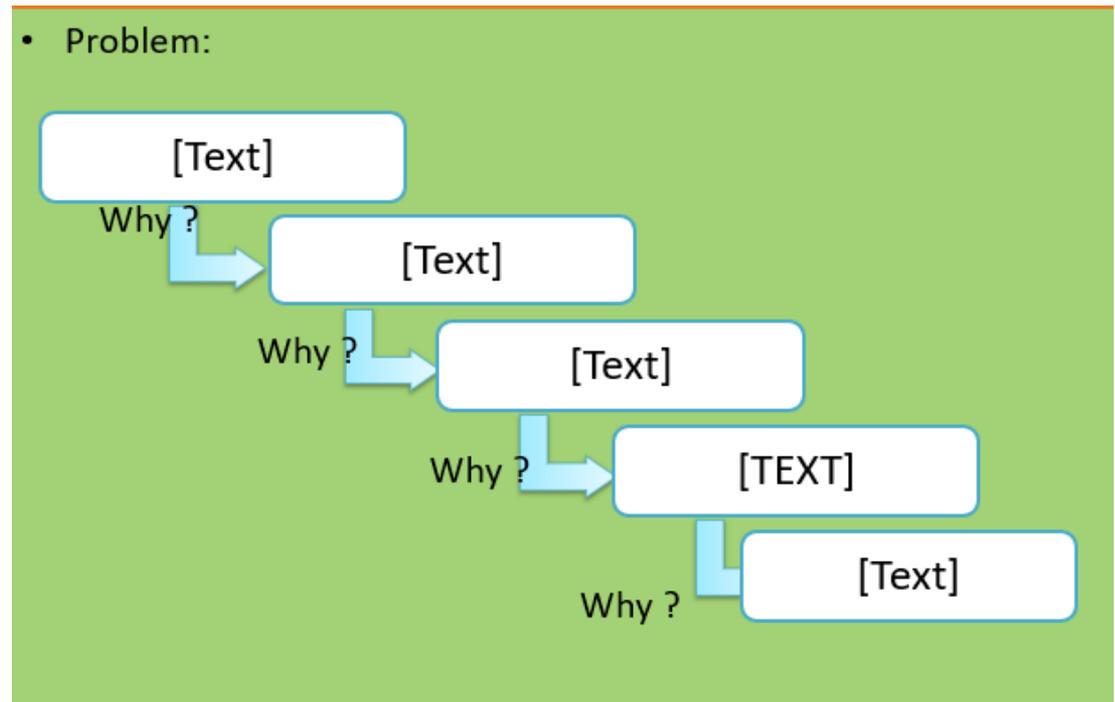
>Outdated tools

### 2. Comprehensive assessment missing suicide risk assessment

>Technology assessments

### 3. Knowing steps to take

>Outdated/Missing processes



# Suicide Ideations Solutions & Experiments

## SOLUTIONS

PHQ-2 Scale for nurses

Build risk levels into assessment tools

Care plans correlate with risk level

Update internal process

Suicide risk contract

Patient education



# Suicide Ideations Completion Plans & Confirmed State

## COMPLETION PLANS

Internal process updated

Suicide risk contract

Online training module

Newsletter notification of process

Team Manager & IDT Training

## CONFIRMED STATE

Internal process updated

Suicide risk contract

Online training module

Validated tool in EHR (PHQ-9 & SLAP) 

Case studies to measure success

## INSIGHTS

Needed to address anxiety/sadness

Update process guide

7



Completion Plans

8



Confirmed State

9



Insights





Technological & paper  
tools to assist staff in  
identifying risk and  
developing suicide  
interventions  
and plan of care

# Suicide Ideations Technology Barriers

## Assessments

- ▶ SW assessment access only
- ▶ SW document assessment in the initial comprehensive only
- ▶ Multiple clicks with logic to display
- ▶ No prompting/guidance of what are the next step

## Care Plans/Interventions

- ▶ No Suicide Care Plans

PHQ-2

## Hand off/Alert other staff

- ▶ Where is the risk level?
- ▶ Are there staff resources?
- ▶ What are the next steps?

SLAP

PHQ-9



# Suicide Ideations Agency Barriers

## Assessments

- ▶ Validated tools
- ▶ Accessible to nursing and social workers with guidance

PHQ-2

PHQ-9

SLAP



# SN-PHQ-2 Depression Assessment

## The Patient Health Questionnaire-2 (PHQ-2)

Over the past 2 weeks, how often have you been bothered by any of the following problems?

	Not At All	Several Days	More Than Half the Days	Nearly Every Day
1. Little interest or pleasure in doing things	0	1	2	3
2. Feeling down, depressed, or hopeless	0	1	2	3

*Nursing Comprehensive Assessment  
Notify SW if positive Depressions Screening.*

Utilized the “additional” customizable tabs in the assessment to add the PHQ-2 questions

Feedback from the nurses regarding non-verbal patients

- Unable to assess reason

Adapted



# Assessment Changes

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## Social Work (SW)

Modified the existing Mental/Emotional assessment.

Hid many areas to keep the SW assessment focused

Suicide/SLAP/PHQ9 assessments all in one area

Able to add the definition of the different risks for both the SLAP and the scores on the PHQ-9 to prompt clinicians for next steps



# Social Work Suicide Assessment

SYMPTOMS	SUPPORTS	STRESSES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sleep changes</li><li>• Weight changes</li><li>• Hopelessness</li><li>• Depression</li><li>• Agitation</li><li>• Impulsivity</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Housing issues</li><li>• Community resources</li><li>• Financial problems</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Loved one's loss</li><li>• Loss of job</li><li>• Legal problems</li><li>• Physical problems</li></ul>

*Cross reference to suicidal risk factors*  
*\*Would like to include missing risks*



# SW Suicide Risk Assessment

## PATIENT HEALTH QUESTIONNAIRE (PHQ-9)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

Over the last 2 weeks, how often have you been bothered by any of the following problems?  
(use "✓" to indicate your answer)

	Not at all	Several days	More than half the days	Nearly every day
1. Little interest or pleasure in doing things	0	1	2	3
2. Feeling down, depressed, or hopeless	0	1	2	3
3. Trouble falling or staying asleep, or sleeping too much	0	1	2	3
4. Feeling tired or having little energy	0	1	2	3
5. Poor appetite or overeating	0	1	2	3
6. Feeling bad about yourself—or that you are a failure or have let yourself or your family down	0	1	2	3
7. Trouble concentrating on things, such as reading the newspaper or watching television	0	1	2	3
8. Moving or speaking so slowly that other people could have noticed. Or the opposite—being so fidgety or restless that you have been moving around a lot more than usual	0	1	2	3
9. Thoughts that you would be better off dead, or of hurting yourself in some way	0	1	2	3

add columns: \_\_\_\_\_ + \_\_\_\_\_ + \_\_\_\_\_

(Healthcare professional: For interpretation of TOTAL, please refer to accompanying scoring card.) TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_

PHQ-9

★ Depression Questions

★★ Suicide Ideation Question



# SW Suicide Assessments-SLAP

**S**

How **SPECIFIC** is the plan of attack? The more specific the details relate, the higher the degree of present risk.

**L**

How **LETHAL** is the proposed method? How quickly could the person die if the plan is implemented? The greater the level of lethality, the greater the risk.

**A**

How **AVAILABLE** is the proposed method? If the tool to be used is readily available, the level of suicide risk is greater.

**P**

What is the **PROXIMITY** of helping resources? Generally, the greater the distance the person is from helping resources, –if the plan were implemented, the greater the degree of risk.

*Determine immediate suicide risk and next steps*



# Suicide Care Plans

## SUICIDE INTERVENTIONS

Assess for suicide ideations and negative behaviors

Assess for suicidal risk and collaborate with IDT

Review medications

Assess/train patient/caregiver to identify suicide risks

Assess/train patient/caregiver on risk of patient remaining at home

Notify physician(s) care team, manager, and quality of suicide risk

Screen for uncontrolled symptoms contributing to risk

Initiate verbal no harm agreement

Help patient identify one thing worth living for

Train caregiver on high-risk actions

Train on 24-hour supervision

*Social Work  
Nurse  
Chaplain  
C.N.A.*

*Interventions  
correspond to risk  
categories identified  
within assessment.  
Goals and Interventions  
overlap between  
disciplines*



# Care Plans

Added a care plan for each discipline regarding suicide

Each discipline has Risk Category

No way to flag the chart in EMR

- ▶ Utilize Basic Screen -> Staff Information with a 130+

Is care plan effective for hand off? Enhancement request made to the EMR vendor to add customizable flags – under consideration with the vendor

... A016 - A: CNA (home)  
... C130 - C: Suicide Risk  
... C135 - C: Spirituality  
... DC - Live Discharge  
... N030 - N: Emotional/Behav  
... N070 - N: Infections  
... N080 - N: Medications  
... N085 - N: Coordination of  
... N110 - N: Labs  
... N130 - N: Suicide Risk  
... P210 - We Honor Veterans  
... P320 - IDT Review  
... P321 - IDT Recert  
... S130 - SW: Suicide Risk  
... SW01 - SW: Caregiver Str  
... SW02 - SW: Patient Stress  
... SW04 - SW: High Risk Beh  
... TELE - Telehealth  
... W001 - Community Health

Adapted





Supplemental  
patient  
education, tools,  
and evaluation  
processes

# Suicide Idea Patient Education & Tools

## Resources for Patients

- *Coping and Anxiety patient education*
- *Suicide ideation safety plan & contract*

### Coping

Sometimes patients may feel helpless and hopeless regarding their terminal illness. Some patients may want to hasten death or have a desire to die. Some may even verbalize suicidal thoughts. Your Hospice Team is here to help.

If you have any concerns or would like additional information/help, please notify your Hospice Care Team at (INSERT NEW PHONE NUMBER)

If you or your loved one is actively talking about and in danger of committing suicide, we encourage you to call 911 right away.

**Suicide Ideation Safety Contract** 

Patient Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
 MRN #: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Suicide Ideation Contract Directions for use**

- After Suicide Risk Assessment resulting in Moderate Risk, MSW to complete document with patient/family
- Determine where to place the document for the patient to easily access
- Turboscan document and email to [JC-MedicalRecords@journeycare.org](mailto:JC-MedicalRecords@journeycare.org)

**Warning Signs of Safety Concerns: Thoughts, emotions, behaviors that show when a crisis is occurring**

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. \_\_\_\_\_

**Here are things that trigger a crisis for me:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. \_\_\_\_\_

**Coping Strategies: When I am in crisis, these are the things that may be helpful:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 5. \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. \_\_\_\_\_ 6. \_\_\_\_\_

**The one thing most important to me in life and worth living for is:**

**Suicide Ideation Safety Contract** 

Patient Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
 MRN #: \_\_\_\_\_

**Safety Agreement**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby agree that I will not harm myself in any way, attempt suicide, or die by suicide.

Furthermore, I agree that I will take the following actions if I am ever suicidal:

- I will remind myself that I can never, under any circumstances, harm myself in any way, attempt suicide, or die by suicide.
- I will call 911 if I believe that I am in immediate danger of harming myself.
- I will follow my action plan below if I am not in immediate danger of harming myself but have suicidal thoughts (please list names, phone numbers, addresses, and any other relevant contact information below)

**Action Plan**

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. \_\_\_\_\_

<input type="checkbox"/>	National Suicide Prevention Lifeline	1-800-273-TALK (1-800-273-8255) <a href="https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/">https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Physician:	Phone Number: _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:	Phone Number: _____



# Clinician Tools

## Intranet Clinician Resources: Suicide Assessment Tools Steps for Assessing Suicidality, PHQ2, SLAP, PHQ9 Suicide ideation questionnaire, checklist & SLAP screening tool

[PHQ-2](#)

[PHQ-9](#)

### Suicide Ideation Questionnaire, Checklist & SLAP Screening Tool (Formerly 20 Questions)



1. Patient Name
2. Diagnosis
3. Screening (Any Nurse, Chaplain)
  - a. Any new event that prompted this?
  - b. What is the underlying cause?
  - c. Patient's fears and concerns
  - d. Any fears regarding death that are prompting this feeling?
  - e. If removal of unsafe objects from home is needed?
  - f. Can patient physically complete the act?
  - g. Evaluate spirituality or right to die
  - h. Does patient have a plan for suicide?
  - i. Is this Suicide Ideation or a wish to die (very different)?
  - j. Complete PH-Q2 (Nurses)
  - k. Need for supervision/sitter
4. Assessment (MSW)
  - a. Depression history, previous attempts, and/or any psych history?
  - b. Has a family member previously committed suicide?
  - c. Consult with nurse regarding medications relating to underlying causes or resolution of depression or symptom management
  - d. Complete Suicide assessment including PHQ-9, SLAP assessment
  - e. Does patient have a plan for suicide?
  - f. Is there existential pain/lack of purpose that leaves them feeling hopeless?
  - g. What are the uncontrolled symptoms that may be contributing to this? Does CHIMBOP\* need to be evaluated? 5Ps?
5. Notify (Any Discipline)
  - a. Family and address safety concerns
  - b. Notify Hospice Medical Director and Primary Care Physician
  - c. Team Manager and Care team/ Interdisciplinary team
  - d. For any suicide attempts or high risks for attempts, notify Team Manager and Regional Director
6. Interventions (Any Discipline)
  - a. Develop Suicide Ideation Safety Contract (MSW)
  - b. Notify 24/7 if immediate MSW consult needed for suicide assessment
  - c. Assess need to increase visit frequency
  - d. Recommend Supervision for patient/ Care Center order sitter
  - e. Nurse to evaluate recent medication changes for cause or symptom management
  - f. Transfer to a higher level of care
  - g. Documentation review per Team Manager
  - h. Update POC to address fears and concerns

SLAP Screen	Depression Severity	PHQ-9 Score	Treatment Actions	JourneyCare Interventions
<b>Low:</b> Person has vague thoughts of suicide but no specific plan or intent. "I wish I could die."	<b>None - Minimal</b>	0 – 4	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contact physician for new/changed medications</li> <li>• Consider need to transfer to higher level of Care-especially for uncontrolled physical or emotional symptom management</li> <li>• Repeat PHQ-9/SLAP at follow up</li> </ul>
	<b>Mild</b>	5 – 9	Watchful waiting; repeat PHQ 9 at follow-up	
<b>Moderate:</b> Suicidal intent expressed but is vague about timing OR plan is based on future event.  Immediacy high, but lethality/availability is low.	<b>Moderate</b>	10 – 14	Treatment plan, consider counseling, follow up and/or pharmacotherapy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initiate Suicide Ideation Contract</li> <li>• Contact physician for new/changed medications</li> <li>• Consider need to transfer to higher level of Care</li> <li>• Repeat PHQ-9/SLAP at follow up</li> </ul>
	<b>Moderately Severe</b>	15 – 19	Active treatment with pharmacotherapy and/or psychotherapy	
<b>High:</b> there is a specific plan, highly lethal method available, and is ready to implement	<b>Severe</b>	20 - 27	Immediate initiation of pharmacotherapy and, if severe impairment or poor response to therapy, expedited referral to a mental health specialist for psychotherapy and/or collaborative management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Call 911</li> <li>• Transfer to IPU or hospital</li> <li>• Initiate Suicide Ideation Contract</li> <li>• Contact physician for new/changed medications</li> <li>• Consider need to transfer to higher level of Care</li> <li>• Repeat PHQ-9/SLAP at follow up</li> </ul>

Adapted



# Updating Suicide Ideations Process Case Study 1

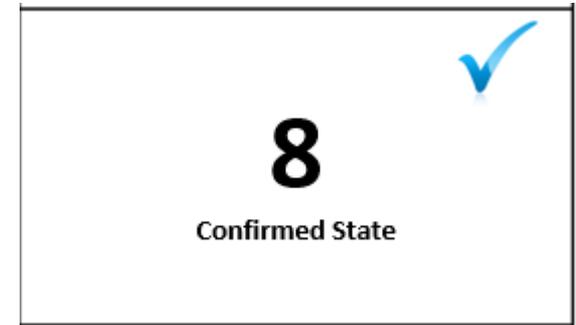
# Measuring Success

## Process measures

- ▶ Hard to identify

## Outcome measures

- ▶ Actual incidents
- ▶ Scheduled Case Studies



# Case Study 1 Details

78-year-old man with cancer

Living with spouse

Upon admission, patient related to Nurse, Social Worker & Chaplain

- ▶ Saw loved ones die painful deaths without the support of friends and family
- ▶ Detailed plans to commit suicide in the future
- ▶ Spouse dispelled the plans as the patient just talking
- ▶ The Final Exit seen in room

Documented, but negative PHQ-2 for depression, no PHQ-9, no SLAP.

No Suicide Care Plan, follow up discussions, or IDT notes

Patient attempted plan exactly as described

Quality notified of event and case study scheduled

**Disclaimer: Patient information & story have been changed. Similar situation presented**



# Evaluation Process: Case Studies

Patient Name: _____		MRN: _____
Terminal Dx: _____	Admit Date: _____	
Team: _____		
Team Members involved in Event:	Name	Role
Reason for Review:		
Xxx		
Chart Review Findings		
Pertinent History:		
Clinical Notes:		
Assessments:		
Care Plans:		
Medications Ordered:		

## Participants

- Care Team
- Quality
- Compliance
- Physician
- Administrators

## Process

- Pre-review
- Timeline
- Highlights
- Documentation Review



# Case Study 1 Findings

## CASE STUDY DISCUSSION

### What went well?

Patient trusted us enough to tell us her plans

### What could have gone better?

Completing the screening tools

Identification of suicide risk

Communicating plans to team, even though spouse denied them

Completing a suicide contract

Addressing patient's fears

### Any barriers?

Availability of tools

Spouse's denial

Afraid to overstep boundaries

Ease of identifying suicide risk in electronic medical record

Staff: Staffing, working in silos, emotional/profession resources

### Was the suicide ideation process followed?

No. Most were not acutely aware of process

# Revisions Plan



**Focus group formed with subject matter experts**

**Previous process was focused mainly on social workers intervening**

- ▶ Identifying suicidal risk and ideation should be the responsibility of all IDT team members.

**Providing increased support to clinicians who are assessing for suicidal ideation**

- ▶ Suicide Confidential email group
- ▶ Peer supervision for clinicians to discuss ethical issues and vicarious trauma

**Case Studies and Ethical Consults**

- ▶ To review patients who may have high risk factors or warning signs and to review any suicidal attempts to understand ways to improve.



# Technological Revisions

ICD-10 Code: R45.851 Suicidal Ideations

Nurse & Chaplain standalone suicide screening: PHQ-2+

- ▶ PHQ-2 Depression questions
- ▶ PHQ-9 Suicide question

SOURCE	QUESTION
PHQ-2 Question 1	Little interest or pleasure in doing things?
PHQ-2 Question 2	Feeling down, depressed, or hopeless?
PHQ-9 Question 9	Thoughts you would be better off dead or hurting yourself in some way?



# Process Revisions



## Suicidal Ideation Screening Tools & Intervention Planning

### Tips when screening for Suicidality:

1. Establish/reaffirm your relationship with the suicidal person. Be accepting and nonjudgmental. Affirm confidentiality and offer support.
2. Use direct terms: (e.g., "die", "kill yourself", "death" to help the person face the reality and finality of death. This discourages the romanticizing of suicide.
3. Use a validated tool to screen for risk.
4. If at any time you feel that anyone in the environment is in immediate danger **call 911 (including yourself!)**

### 1. PHQ-2: (2 Question Screen)

The PHQ-2 is a brief depression screen concerning the last 2 weeks. A (new or worsening) PHQ-2 score of 3 or greater requires prompt administration of the full PHQ-9. A nurse, chaplain, child life specialist, or social worker can conduct this screening. If the social worker is not the one conducting the PHQ-2 and the score is 3 or greater, notify the social worker.

PHQ-2 - Over the last 2 weeks

<p>Have you had little interest or pleasure in doing things?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 0 - None at all</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1 - Several days</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2 - More than half the days</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 3 - Nearly every day</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Not assessed (enter reason)</p>	<p>Have you felt down, depressed or hopeless?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 0 - None at all</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1 - Several days</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2 - More than half the days</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 3 - Nearly every day</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Not assessed (enter reason)</p>
<p>Score</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> TOTAL SCORE - If score of 3 or above refer to SW to complete additional assessments</p>	<p>Comments</p>

Updated: 9/20/2021

Suicidal Ideation Patient Process Guide					
Process Category: 14-Clinical Symptom Management			Reviewer:		
Purpose: Assist and guide in planning interventions for patients with suicidal ideation			Review/Revision Date:		
Original Author: Berni Callaway, Joshua Kaplan-Lyman, Kerry Stewart			Committee Approval Date:		
Original Date: 10/22/2021			Total Process Time (Minutes): 12		
Process Owner Role: Nurse, Social Worker, Chaplain			Process Flow:		
Approval(s): SW, Social worker, RN, Skilled nurse, CHL, Chaplain					
Regulation(s):					
Responsible Party	Step	Task(s) to Complete	Time in Minutes	Key Points (Preclude/Note if Include/Do Not Include)	Why is this Step Important (Expected outcome from patient and clinical perspective)
DL, SW, CHL	1	Conduct PHQ-2 Plus screen	1		Screen patients for suicide risk and identify patient needs
DL, SW, CHL	2	If a positive indicator in the Plus section requires SW Screening	1	If a SW is completing the PHQ-2 Plus Screen, a score of 3 or greater in the PHQ-2 portion or a positive indicator in the Plus section requires PHQ-9 Screen	Complete non thorough screening to further assess patient needs
DL, SW, CHL	3	Complete SW screen	10		Complete non thorough screening to further assess patient needs
DL, SW, CHL	4	For patients with a low, Moderate, or high suicidal risk follow interventions in <a href="#">Suicidal Ideation Screening Tool &amp; Intervention Planning Guide</a>	1		Develop individualized plan of care that acknowledge suicide risk and determine need for further interventions
DL, SW, CHL	5	Complete SW screen if/when unusual occurrence	1		

Revised process to new format with links



# Workflow Revisions

## Suicidal Ideations Patient Process

2021.12



**Abbreviations:** SN-Skilled Nurse, SW-Social Worker, CHP-Chaplain

**Link** to RESOURCE\_Suicidal Ideation Screening Tools & Intervention Planning

*Easy visual guide for process*



# Training Revisions

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Online Learning



## **Improve dissemination of process**

- ▶ Multiple interactive CEU presentations to educate on process and demystify assessment and interventions.



# Case Study 2

# Case Study 2 Details Part 1

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78-year-old male with cancer, living with wife

Upon admission, patient stated he believed in right to die; wife agreed

Patient stated he did not want to die with unmanaged pain

Suicide risk screenings completed. Comprehensive pain assessments every visit

Patient screened as low suicide risk

Suicide Care Plans initiated

Interdisciplinary Team notified and developed plan



# Case Study 2 Details Part 2

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Quality notified and Ethics Consult requested and completed

Patient & spouse notified that

- ▶ Illinois is not a right to die state
- ▶ Hospice will keep symptoms managed to decrease patient's and spouse's fears

**Outcome**

- ▶ As patient started experiencing symptoms, pain was managed, and patient denied suicidal ideations
- ▶ Multidisciplinary approach to manage symptoms
- ▶ No suicide ideations
- ▶ Patient died peacefully at home



# Case Study 1 Findings

## CASE STUDY DISCUSSION

### What went well?

Patient trusted us enough to tell us his beliefs  
Screening tools completed upon admission and during length of stay  
Suicide risk identified in chart and communicated to team  
Ethics consult requested immediately  
Patient's fears acknowledged and managed  
Pain symptoms assessed regularly and managed

### What could have gone better?

Completing a suicide contract (although patient never scored high on risk)

### Any barriers?

Pulling together Ethics Consult quickly

### Was the suicide ideation process followed?

Yes. The team went beyond reporting and actively requested an ethics review



The image features a solid blue background on the left side, which is separated from the white background on the right by a diagonal grey line. The text 'Final Thoughts' is positioned in the white area.

# Final Thoughts

# Final Thoughts

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Staff hesitancy

Impact of Case Studies

Willingness to revise process

Training vs interactive exercises

Nurses and Aide training

Understanding expectations

Impact of support throughout process

Seeing the difference when the process was followed

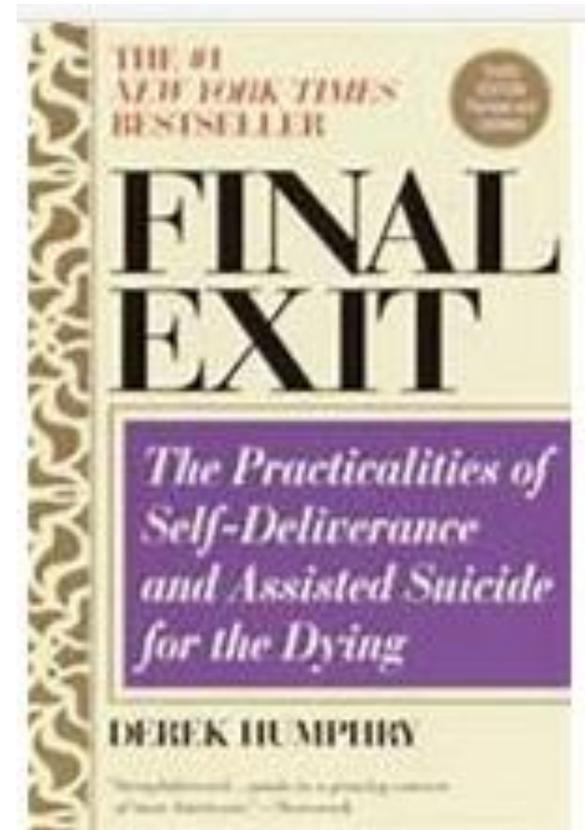


# Session Objectives

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- ✓ Recognize suicide risk factors and the suicide spectrum
- ✓ Follow the Lean Process approach utilized to build and update Suicide Ideations process
- ✓ Discover technological & paper tools to assist staff in identifying risk and developing suicide ideations interventions and plan of care

# Resources



# Suicide Ideation Safety Contract

**Suicidal Ideation Safety Contract** 

Patient Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
 MRN #: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Suicidal Ideation Contract Directions for use**

- After Suicide Risk Assessment resulting in Moderate or High Risk, MSW to complete document with patient/family
- Determine where to place the document for the patient to easily access
- Turboscan document to medical record

**Warning Signs of Safety Concerns: Thoughts, emotions, behaviors that show when a crisis is occurring:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. \_\_\_\_\_

**Here are things that trigger a crisis for me:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. \_\_\_\_\_

**Coping Strategies: When I am in crisis, these are the things may be helpful:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 5. \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. \_\_\_\_\_ 6. \_\_\_\_\_

**The one thing most important to me in life and worth living for is:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Making the environment safe:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 5. \_\_\_\_\_

**Suicidal Ideation Safety Contract** 

Patient Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
 MRN #: \_\_\_\_\_

**Safety Agreement**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby agree that I will not harm myself in any way, attempt suicide, or die by suicide.

Furthermore, I agree that I will take the following actions if I am ever suicidal:

- I will remind myself that I can never, under any circumstances, harm myself in any way, attempt suicide, or die by suicide.
- I will call 911 if I believe that I am in immediate danger of harming myself.
- I will follow my action plan below if I am not in immediate danger of harming myself but have suicidal thoughts (please list names, phone numbers, addresses, and any other relevant contact information below)

**Action Plan**

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. \_\_\_\_\_

<input type="radio"/>	National Suicide Prevention Lifeline	1-800-273-TALK (1-800-273-8255) <a href="https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/">https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/</a>
<input type="radio"/>	Physician:	Phone Number: _____
<input type="radio"/>	Other:	Phone Number: _____
<input type="radio"/>	AGENCY	AGENCY PHONE NUMBER _____

Patient Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Caregiver/Responsible Party Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Staff Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



# Questions & Discussion

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