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

Step 1: Identify Risk Factors

C-SSRS Suicidal Ideation Severity	Month
1) Wish to be dead *Have you wished you were dead or wished you could go to sleep and not wake up?*	
2) Current suicidal thoughts *Have you actually had any thoughts of killing yourself?*	
3) Suicidal thoughts w/ Method (w/no specific Plan or Intent or act) *Have you been thinking about how you might do this?*	
4) Suicidal Intent without Specific Plan *Have you had these thoughts and had some intention of acting on them?*	
5) Intent with Plan *Have you started to work out or worked out the details of how to kill yourself? Did you intend to carry out this plan?*	

C-SSRS Suicidal Behavior: *"Have you ever done anything, started to do anything, or prepared to do anything to end your life?"* 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

Activating Events:
- □ Recent losses or other significant negative event(s) (legal, financial, relationship, etc.)
- □ Pending incarceration or homelessness
- □ Current or pending isolation or feeling alone

Treatment History:
- □ Previous psychiatric diagnosis and treatments
- □ Hopeless or dissatisfied with treatment
- □ Non-compliant with treatment
- □ Not receiving treatment
- □ Insomnia

Other:
- □ _____
- □ _____
- □ _____

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
- □ Substance abuse or dependence
- □ Agitation or severe anxiety
- □ Perceived burden on family or others
- □ Homicidal Ideation
- □ Aggressive behavior towards others
- □ Refuses or feels unable to agree to safety plan
- □ Sexual abuse (lifetime)
- □ Family history of suicide

□ **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:	**External:**
□ Fear of death or dying due to pain and suffering □ Identifies reasons for living □ _____ □ _____	□ 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 or school

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 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 (2) Less than 1 hour/some of the time (3) 1-4 hours/a lot of time (4) 4-8 hours/most of day (5) More than 8 hours/persistent or continuous	
Controllability ***Could/can you stop thinking about killing yourself or wanting to die if you want to?*** (1) Easily able to control thoughts (2) Can control thoughts with little difficulty (3) Can control thoughts with some difficulty (4) Can control thoughts with a lot of difficulty (5) Unable to control thoughts (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 (2) Deterrents probably stopped you (3) Uncertain that deterrents stopped you (4) Deterrents most likely did not stop you (5) Deterrents definitely did not stop 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 (2) Mostly to get attention, revenge or a reaction from others (3) Equally to get attention, revenge or a reaction from others and to end/stop the pain (4) Mostly to end or stop the pain (you couldn't go on living with the pain or how you were feeling) (5) Completely to end or stop the pain (you couldn't go on living with the pain or how you were feeling) (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
High Suicide 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 admission process** • **Stay with patient until transfer to higher level of care is complete** • **Follow-up and document outcome of emergency psychiatric evaluation**
Moderate Suicide Risk □ Suicidal ideation with method, **WITHOUT plan, intent or behavior in past month** (C-SSRS Suicidal Ideation #3) **Or** □ Suicidal behavior more than 3 months ago (C-SSRS Suicidal Behavior Lifetime) **Or** □ Multiple risk factors and few protective factors	• **Directly address suicide risk, implementing suicide prevention strategies** • **Develop Safety Plan**
Low Suicide Risk □ Wish to die or Suicidal Ideation **WITHOUT method, intent, plan or behavior** (C-SSRS Suicidal Ideation #1 or #2) **Or** □ Modifiable risk factors and strong protective factors **Or** □ No reported history of Suicidal Ideation or Behavior	• **Discretionary Outpatient Referral**

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)