



Clinical Practice Guideline: Suicide Risk Assessment and Management

Magellan of Virginia
Quality Improvement Department
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*Clinical Practice Guideline:
Suicide Risk Assessment and Management*





Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPGs)

- What is a clinical practice guideline?
 - *Evidence-based framework for practitioners' clinical decision making that drives best practice approaches to treatment.*
- What is Magellan's philosophy with clinical practice guidelines?
 - *Our philosophy is to promote the delivery of quality behavioral healthcare to our members. In support of this philosophy, we adopt, develop and distribute clinical practice guidelines that are founded upon published evidence-based scientific and clinical literature and are relevant to the needs of our members.*
- What is Magellan's policy for clinical practice guidelines?
 - *Our policy is to offer our network providers relevant clinical practice guidelines to assist them in delivering quality care. The clinical practice guidelines that we adopt or develop are consistent with current scientific evidence and best practices.*



What do I need to do as a provider?

As indicated in the National Provider Handbook Supplement:

- Review and adhere to Magellan's adopted clinical practice guidelines
- If your clinical judgment leads to a decision that varies from recommendations in a guideline, thoroughly document the reasons in the member's clinical record

You can find the handbook at: www.magellanofvirginia.com



CPG Suicide Risk Assessment and Management

- Current suicidal ideation and plans
- History of suicidal ideation and attempts
- Presence of high risk factors, such as significant behavior change in teens, advanced age/debilitating illness/male senior citizens, insomnia, substance use/abuse, anxiety, recent inpatient discharge, history of violence or bullying (victim or perpetrator)
- Plan for frequent evaluation of suicidal thinking or behavior in patients prescribed Anti-depressant and/or Anticonvulsant medication (assess if reviewing for MDD CPG)



CPG Suicide Risk Assessment and Management

- Assessment of LETHAL INTENT. Documentation shows interventions to address this with patient and response to measures.
- Assessment for access to any weapons or LETHAL MEANS, if suicidal.
- Developed plan to DIMINISH ACCESS TO WEAPONS/LETHAL MEANS, if suicidal.
- Developed plan for maintaining sobriety and discussed the role of substance use in increasing suicide risk.
- Attempted to involve family and other support system members in suicide management plans, or documented why not appropriate.
- Documented actual family /support system involvement in suicide management plan.
- Hallucination Intervention(Intervention to alleviate command hallucinations, if present) (Assess if reviewing for Schizophrenia CPG)



Screening Tools to help with Assessment of SI

- The Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-2 and PHQ-9)
 - Assesses for depressed mood over the past 2 weeks
 - Utilize with youth and adults

- Geriatric Depression Scale (GDS)
 - Assesses late-life depression

*****Screening tools should never take the place of good clinical judgment!**



Want more information?

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline Toll-Free/24 hours/7 days a week:
1-800-273-TALK (8255)

Check out Relias: this site holds educational trainings; go to www.magellanofvirigina.com under the *For Providers* menu and then select *Training*

Check out information regarding preventing suicide:
http://www.magellanofvirginia.com/media/919444/suicide_prevention_tip_sheet_aug.2014.pdf.



Resources

- American Association of Suicidology (AAS): www.suicidology.org
- American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP): www.afsp.org
- National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC)/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention
 - CDC Facebook page on violence prevention: www.facebook.com/vetoviolence
- National Institute for Mental Health (NIMH): www.nimh.nih.gov
- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA): www.samhsa.gov
- Suicide Awareness Voices of Education (SAVE): www.save.org
- Suicide Prevention Resource Center (SPRC): www.sprc.org

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