

S.O.A.P. - Suicidal Older Adult Protocol (Ages 65-85)

Name _____ Age _____ Gender M / F Date _____ Rater _____

A. Demographic Factors

- 1. Gender/Race/Age**
 Female/Non-white/65+ = L
 Female/White/65+ = L
 Male/Non-white/65+ = L
 Male/White/65-80 = M
 Male/White/80+ = H
- 2. Marital Status**
 Married = L, S/D/W = M

L	M	H	E

B. Historical Factors

- 3. Prior Suicide Attempts**
 None = L 1 = H 2+ = E
 Date _____
 Means _____
 Tx _____
Recent, Planned, Serious Attempt(s) (3 mo)
 No = L Yes = E

L	M	H	E

C. Clinical Factors - Stable

- 5. Axis I Diagnosis**
 None = L
 Dementia, Anx, Schiz = L
 Sub. Abuse = M
 Mood Disorders (MDD, BP) = E
- 6. Phys. Illness***
 None = L
 Female (COPD, Cancer, Neuro) = L
 Males (COPD, Cancer, Neuro) = M
- 7. Functional Impairment of ADL***
 None = L, Moderate = M
 High = H

L	M	H	E

D. Contextual Factors

- 8. Recent Loss/Stressors**
 None = L
 Bereavement (<4yrs) = M
 Family Discord,
 Financial, Caregiving = M or H
- 9. Lethal Means Access**
9a. Firearms
 None = L Yes = M
 Recent Purchase = H
9b. Pills/Poisons
 No = L Yes = M
 Stockpiled = H
- 10. Social Isolation**
 No = L
 Live Alone Without
 Confidants = M

L	M	H	E

E. Clinical Factors - Acute – To be rated by client

- 11. Do you experience psychic pain, misery or distress?**
 (L) No (L) A little (M) Some (H) A lot
- 12. Do you feel hopeless regarding your life (life will not get better)?**
 (L) No (L) A little (M) Some (H) A lot
- 13. Do you feel that you are a burden to others?**
 (L) No (L) A little (M) Some (H) A lot
- 14. Do you have a plan and or method to commit suicide?**
 (L) No (L) General idea, no specific plans
 (M) Specific plan (E) Specific plan with method available and scheduled

F. Protective Factors

- 15. Moral Objections**
 Yes = L No = M
- 16. Family Related Concerns**
 Yes = L No = M
- 17. Mental Health Treatment For Mood Disorder**
 NA or Yes = L No = M
- 18. Other reasons for living:** _____

L	M	H	E

Total Factors: _____
 L (18) M (17) H (9) E (4)

* As mediated by Depression

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

RISK APPRAISAL:
(Check one)

Low

Medium

High

ACTIONS TAKEN (Check all that apply):

- 1. Continue monitoring risk factors _____
- 2. Notify/consult with supervisor _____
- 3. Recommend/refer increased outpatient treatment _____
- 4. Recommend/refer to psychiatric consult/med evaluation _____
- 5. Contract for NO HARMFUL behaviors _____
- 6. Recommend elimination of access to firearms _____
- 7. Notify legal authorities of risk to self or others (if applicable) _____
- 8. Notify family (if applicable) _____
- 9. Recommend/refer to day treatment _____
- 10. Recommend/refer to crisis unit/voluntary hospitalization _____
- 11. Initiate involuntary hospitalization _____
- 12. Other: _____

Interviewer

Supervisor

Suicide Protocol Instructions
When a resident threatens to harm him/herself, start at the top of the flow chart and follow each step.

Take threat seriously. Immediately provide one-on-one supervision.

Notify charge nurse in house. Nurse will assess patient using the S.O.A.P.

Notify Social Worker on call with S.O.A.P. score.

Take the following steps, based on S.O.A.P. score...

Remember:
DOCUMENT ALL ACTIONS TAKEN!!

Low Risk

Refer to psychology and psychiatry for further assessment.

If someone who is at low risk is repeatedly threatening suicide, develop individualized care plan to address behavior.

Document action taken.

Medium Risk

Provide one-on-one supervision until emergency care plan meeting can be arranged.

Remove potentially dangerous items (belts, electrical cords, glass, etc.) from resident's room.

Limit the resident to finger foods (resident should not have access to silverware or plasticware).

Nurse should notify resident's physician, and psychiatrist. **Social work** should notify psychology and resident's guardian/family.

Hold emergency care plan meeting to develop individualized plan ASAP.

Document all actions taken.

High Risk

Provide one-on-one supervision until resident is transferred to a safer environment.

Remove potentially dangerous items (belts, electrical cords, glass, etc.) from resident's room.

Social work should arrange to have resident transferred to a more restrictive environment ASAP.

Nurse should notify resident's physician, and psychiatrist. **Social work** should notify psychology and resident's guardian/family.

Document all actions taken.