FACILITATED DISCUSSION: STANDARD CARE PROTOCOL FOR PEOPLE WITH SUICIDE RISK

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Standard Care Elements for People with Suicide Risk*

1. **Identify Suicide Risk** using a standardized screening assessment

2. **Enhance Safety** for those with increased risk
   - Safety Planning
   - Reducing Access to Lethal Means

3. **Refer to Specialized Care** or provide treatment

4. **Provide Supportive Contacts**

Suicide Protocol Template*

ASSESSMENT AND ENHANCE SAFETY

Office Protocol for Suicidal Patients – Office Template

Post in a visible or accessible place for key office staff.

If a patient presents with suicidal ideation or suicidal ideation is suspected and detected with screening questions ...

____________________________ should be called/paged to assist with suicide risk assessment (e.g. physician, mental health professional, telemedicine consult, etc.).

____________________________ should be called/paged to assist with collaborative safety planning.

Identify and call patient’s support person in the community (e.g. family member, pastor, mental health provider, other support person).

Suicide Protocol Template*

SPECIALIZED CARE AND CONTACTS

If patient requires hospitalization ...

Our nearest Emergency Department or psychiatric emergency center is ____________________________

Phone # ____________________

(________________________) will call __________________________ to arrange transport.

(Mean of transport (ambulance, police, etc) and phone #)

Backup transportation plan: Call ____________________________________________________________

(________________________) will wait with patient for transport.

Documentation and follow-up ...

(________________________) will call ED to provide patient information.

(________________________) will document incident in __________________________

(e.g. medical chart, suicide tracking chart, etc)

Necessary forms/instructions/chart-flagging materials are located ____________________________

(________________________) will follow-up with ED to determine disposition of patient.

(________________________) will follow-up with patient within ____________________________

(Time frame)

Discussion

• Have a suicide protocol?

• What does it address?

• Challenges and lessons learned?