

## Determine Level of Risk for Suicide and Appropriate Action

Risk of Suicide	Indicators of Suicide Risk	Contributing Factors	Initial Action Based on Level of Risk
<b>High Acute Risk</b>	Persistent suicidal ideation or thoughts Strong intention to act or plan Not able to control impulse OR Recent suicide attempt or preparatory behavior	Acute state of mental disorder or acute psychiatric symptoms Acute precipitating event(s) Inadequate protective factors	Maintain direct observational control of the patient.  Limit access to lethal means.  Immediate transfer with escort to Urgent/Emergency Care setting for hospitalization.
<b>Intermediate Acute Risk</b>	Current suicidal ideation or thoughts No intention to act Able to control the impulse No recent suicide attempt or preparatory behavior or rehearsal of act	Existence of warning signs or risk factors AND Limited protective factor	Refer to Behavioral Health provider for complete evaluation and interventions.  Contact Behavioral Health provider to determine acuity of the referral.  Limited access to lethal means.
<b>Low Acute Risk</b>	Recent suicidal ideations or thoughts No intention to act or plan Able to control the impulse No planning or rehearsing a suicide act No previous attempt	Existence of protective factors AND Limited risk factors	Consider consultation with Behavioral Health to determine: -Need for referral -Treatment  Treat presenting problems  Address safety issues  Document care and rationale for action