SUICIDE RISK SCREENING PATHWAY

Presentation to ED

- Medically able to answer questions?
  - YES
  - Administer ASQ (Ideally separate from parents)
  - YES
  - Patient refuses to answer?
    - NO
    - YES on any question 1-4?
      - NO
      - YES
      - YES to Q5?
        - NO
        - YES
        - Non-acute Positive Screen: Conduct Brief Suicide Safety Assessment (BSSA)

- BSSA outcome (three possibilities)
  - LOW RISK
    - No further evaluation needed in the ED
    - SAFETY EDUCATION
      - Create safety plan for potential future suicidal thoughts
      - Discuss suicide means restriction
      - Provide Resources: 24/7 National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1-800-273-TALK (8225) En Español: 1-888-628-9454 24/7 Crisis Text Line: Text “START” to 741-741
    - REFERRAL
      - to further mental health care as appropriate; continue medical care; initiate safety education; communicate positive screen to PC

  - HIGH RISK
    - Further evaluation of suicide risk is necessary; should not leave without a full safety assessment
    - Conduct Full Suicide Safety Assessment
    - Needs inpatient psychiatric hospitalization?
      - YES
      - Initiate or maintain safety precautions; medically stabilize patient
      - Is patient being admitted for medical treatment?
        - NO
        - YES
        - Transfer to psychiatric unit
          - Safety precautions to be followed throughout transfer process
        - Handoff clinical risk assessment information to accepting psychiatric unit upon transfer from ED
  - IMMINENT RISK
    - Patient is at imminent risk for suicide with current suicidal thoughts
    - INITIATE SAFETY PRECAUTIONS
      - should not leave without a full safety assessment
    - SAFETY PRECAUTIONS
      - Per institution protocol; keep patient under direct observation, remove dangerous items, etc.
    - Notify family; Alert ED provider
    - Handoff clinical risk assessment information to accepting medical unit upon transfer from ED
    - Transfer to medical unit
      - Safety precautions to be followed throughout transfer process

EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT

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