MA Role in

Suicide Prevention

**BEFORE VISIT**

POSITIVE\*\* response or clinical concern, administer PHQ-9

Administer every patient\*, every visit:

Two Question Screen: PHQ-2

Add “Complete C-SSRS” card to computer monitor

Provider will assess level of risk using the Columbia Suicide Severity Rating Scale

Notify provider if PHQ – 9 was positive\*\*\*

**DURING VISIT**

MA NEXT STEPS

**AFTER VISIT**

**HIGH RISK**

* Ensure patient phone #, address & emergency contacts are accurate
* Schedule follow-up appointment with Provider, BHC or designated staff for within 1-3 days

\*All patients 12 years old and older.

\*\*Positive score on PHQ -2 is a score of “2” or higher

\*\*\*Positive score on PHQ – 9 is **any response other than “0” on question 9**

**MODERATE RISK**

* Ensure patient phone #, address & emergency contacts are accurate
* Schedule follow-up appointment with Provider, BHC or designated staff for within 1 week

**LOW RISK**

* Ensure patient phone #, address & emergency contacts are accurate

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| **WARNING SIGNS*** Talking about or wanting die or kill oneself
* Looking for a way to kill oneself, such as searching online or obtaining a gun
* Talking about feeling hopeless or having no reason to live
* Talking about feeling trapped or in unbearable pain
* Talking about being a burden to others
* Increasing the use of alcohol or drugs
* Acting anxious or agitated; behaving recklessly
* Sleeping too little or too much
* Withdrawing or feeling isolated
* Showing rage or talking about seeking revenge
* Displaying extreme mood swings
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| **RISK FACTORS*** Prior suicide attempts
* Misuse/abuse of alcohol or other drugs
* History of mental illness (mood disorders, anxiety, schizophrenia)
* Access to lethal means
* Knowing someone who died from suicide
* Social isolation
* Chronic disease/disability
* Lack of access to BH care
* End of relationship or marriage
* Death of loved on or pet
* An arrest
* Serious financial problems
* Recent discharge from psychiatric hospital
 | **PROTECTIVE FACTORS*** Effective BH care
* Close connections to individuals, family, community & social institutions
* Adept skills in problem solving and coping
* Self-esteem/sense of purpose or meaning
* Cultural, religious or person beliefs discouraging suicide
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Updated: 9/27/2018

Risk Factors, Protective Factors, and Warning Signs