



Training Information

Recognizing and Responding to Suicide Risk in Primary Care American Association of Suicidology

Recognizing and Responding to Suicide Risk in Primary Care (RRSR-PC) is a suicide prevention training program developed specifically for the primary care environment and not rooted in a larger training for mental health professionals. While the AAS training emphasizes the need to collaborate and refer to mental health professionals, it also discusses the reality of primary care as the de facto mental health setting in the present medical climate. Finally, the AAS training is comprehensive yet brief enough to fit within the confines of most medical settings. RRSR-PC is a 90-minute training that can fit into a lunch time or after hours training that does not burden staff.

For this Garrett Lee Smith project in Pennsylvania, the RRSR-PC training is conducted by a live trainer who travels to the medical practice. The presentation is a blend of powerpoint slides and video vignettes that demonstrate skills taught during the training. The following content is covered:

1. Suicide epidemiology and statistics
2. Suicide and primary care
3. The language of suicide
4. Biopsychosocial model of suicide
5. Suicide risk assessment
6. Triage decision making
7. Developing a crisis response plan
8. Interventions for primary care
9. FDA black box warning
10. Documentation

Online Adolescent Suicide Risk Assessment Training

This online suicide risk assessment training module will be geared to primary care providers, including nurse practitioners, physicians, physician assistants, as well as school nurses, nurse midwives, and other clinicians who want to identify youth at risk for suicide in their practices. The program focuses on the assessment of background and subjective risk factors using the well known *HEADSS* (*H*ome, *E*ducation, *A*ctivities, *D*rug use and abuse, *S*exual behavior, and *S*uicidality) acronym for psychosocial risk assessment. Participants will take a pretest/posttest that includes videotaped vignettes of two adolescent primary care visits in which they act as primary care provider, enabling them to assess their knowledge before and after the training. Specific topics include the following:

- Importance of suicide risk assessment
- Prevalence/epidemiology of suicide
- National efforts for suicide prevention
- Reasons why suicide becomes an option
- Performing an adolescent assessment (background and subjective factors)
- Levels of suicide risk
- Referral
- Treatment
- Assessment tools
- Family assessment