

## COLUMBIA-SUICIDE SEVERITY RATING SCALE

*Screen Version - Recent*

<b>SUICIDE IDEATION DEFINITIONS AND PROMPTS</b>	<b>Past month</b>	
<b>Ask questions that are bolded and <u>underlined</u>.</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>Ask Questions 1 and 2</b>		
<b>1) Wish to be Dead:</b> Person endorses thoughts about a wish to be dead or not alive anymore, or wish to fall asleep and not wake up.  <u><b><i>Have you wished you were dead or wished you could go to sleep and not wake up?</i></b></u>		
<b>2) Suicidal Thoughts:</b> General non-specific thoughts of wanting to end one's life/commit suicide, " <i>I've thought about killing myself</i> " without general thoughts of ways to kill oneself/associated methods, intent, or plan.  <u><b><i>Have you actually had any thoughts of killing yourself?</i></b></u>		
<b>If YES to 2, ask questions 3, 4, 5, and 6. If NO to 2, go directly to question 6.</b>		
<b>3) Suicidal Thoughts with Method (without Specific Plan or Intent to Act):</b> Person endorses thoughts of suicide and has thought of a least one method during the assessment period. This is different than a specific plan with time, place or method details worked out. " <i>I thought about taking an overdose but I never made a specific plan as to when where or how I would actually do it....and I would never go through with it.</i> "  <u><b><i>Have you been thinking about how you might kill yourself?</i></b></u>		
<b>4) Suicidal Intent (without Specific Plan):</b> Active suicidal thoughts of killing oneself and patient reports having <u>some intent to act on such thoughts</u> , as opposed to " <i>I have the thoughts but I definitely will not do anything about them.</i> "  <u><b><i>Have you had these thoughts and had some intention of acting on them?</i></b></u>		
<b>5) Suicide Intent with Specific Plan:</b> Thoughts of killing oneself with details of plan fully or partially worked out and person has some intent to carry it out.  <u><b><i>Have you started to work out or worked out the details of how to kill yourself? Do you intend to carry out this plan?</i></b></u>		
<b>6) Suicide Behavior Question:</b>  <u><b><i>Have you ever done anything, started to do anything, or prepared to do anything to end your life?</i></b></u> Examples: Collected pills, obtained a gun, gave away valuables, wrote a will or suicide note, took out pills but didn't swallow any, held a gun but changed your mind or it was grabbed from your hand, went to the roof but didn't jump; or actually took pills, tried to shoot yourself, cut yourself, tried to hang yourself, etc.  <b>If YES, ask: <u>How long ago did you do any of these?</u></b> • Over a year ago?    • Between three months and a year ago?    • Within the last three months?		

*For inquiries and training information contact: Kelly Posner, Ph.D.*

*New York State Psychiatric Institute, 1051 Riverside Drive, New York, New York, 10032; posnerk@nyspi.columbia.edu*

© 2008 The Research Foundation for Mental Hygiene, Inc.