

## The Suicide Behaviors Questionnaire-Revised (SBQ-R) - Overview

The SBQ-R has 4 items, each tapping a different dimension of suicidality:<sup>1</sup>

- Item 1 taps into lifetime suicide ideation and/or suicide attempt.
- Item 2 assesses the frequency of suicidal ideation over the past twelve months.
- Item 3 assesses the threat of suicide attempt.
- Item 4 evaluates self-reported likelihood of suicidal behavior in the future.

### Clinical Utility

Due to the wording of the four SBQ-R items, a broad range of information is obtained in a very brief administration. Responses can be used to identify at-risk individuals and specific risk behaviors.

### Scoring

See scoring guideline on following page.

### Psychometric Properties<sup>1</sup>

	<b>Cutoff score</b>	<b>Sensitivity</b>	<b>Specificity</b>
Adult General Population	≥7	93%	95%
Adult Psychiatric Inpatients	≥8	80%	91%

1. Osman A, Bagge CL, Guitierrez PM, Konick LC, Kooper BA, Barrios FX., *The Suicidal Behaviors Questionnaire-Revised (SBQ-R): Validation with clinical and nonclinical samples, Assessment, 2001, (5), 443-454.*

## SBQ-R - Scoring

### Item 1: taps into *lifetime* suicide ideation and/or suicide attempts

Selected response 1	Non-Suicidal subgroup	1 point	
Selected response 2	Suicide Risk Ideation subgroup	2 points	
Selected response 3a or 3b	Suicide Plan subgroup	3 points	
Selected response 4a or 4b	Suicide Attempt subgroup	4 points	_____
			<b>Total Points</b>

### Item 2: assesses the *frequency* of suicidal ideation over the past 12 months

<b>Selected Response:</b>	Never	1 point	
	Rarely (1 time)	2 points	
	Sometimes (2 times)	3 points	
	Often (3-4 times)	4 points	
	Very Often (5 or more times)	5 points	_____
			<b>Total Points</b>

### Item 3: taps into the *threat* of suicide attempt

Selected response 1	1 point	
Selected response 2a or 2b	2 points	_____
Selected response 3a or 3b	3 points	<b>Total Points</b>

### Item 4: evaluates *self-reported likelihood* of suicidal behavior in the future

<b>Selected Response:</b>	Never	0 points	
	No chance at all	1 point	
	Rather unlikely	2 points	
	Unlikely	3 points	
	Likely	4 points	
	Rather Likely	5 points	_____
	Very Likely	6 points	<b>Total Points</b>

Sum all the scores circled/checked by the respondents.

The total score should range from 3-18.

\_\_\_\_\_

**Total Score**

**AUC = Area Under the Receiver Operating Characteristic Curve; the area measures discrimination, that is, the ability of the test to correctly classify those with and without the risk. [.90-1.0 = Excellent; .80-.90 = Good; .70-.80 = Fair; .60-.70 = Poor]**

	Sensitivity	Specificity	PPV	AUC
<b>Item 1: a cutoff score of <math>\geq 2</math></b>				
• Validation Reference: Adult Inpatient	0.80	0.97	.95	0.92
• Validation Reference: Undergraduate College	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
<b>Total SBQ-R : a cutoff score of <math>\geq 7</math></b>				
• Validation Reference: Undergraduate College	0.93	0.95	0.70	0.96
<b>Total SBQ-R: a cutoff score of <math>\geq 8</math></b>				
• Validation Reference: Adult Inpatient	0.80	0.91	0.87	0.89

## SBQ-R Suicide Behaviors Questionnaire-Revised

Patient Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Visit \_\_\_\_\_

**Instructions:** Please check the number beside the statement or phrase that best applies to you.

**1. Have you ever thought about or attempted to kill yourself?** (check one only)

- 1. Never
- 2. It was just a brief passing thought
- 3a. I have had a plan at least once to kill myself but did not try to do it
- 3b. I have had a plan at least once to kill myself and really wanted to die
- 4a. I have attempted to kill myself, but did not want to die
- 4b. I have attempted to kill myself, and really hoped to die

**2. How often have you thought about killing yourself in the past year?** (check one only)

- 1. Never
- 2. Rarely (1 time)
- 3. Sometimes (2 times)
- 4. Often (3-4 times)
- 5. Very Often (5 or more times)

**3. Have you ever told someone that you were going to commit suicide, or that you might do it?** (check one only)

- 1. No
- 2a. Yes, at one time, but did not really want to die
- 2b. Yes, at one time, and really wanted to die
- 3a. Yes, more than once, but did not want to do it
- 3b. Yes, more than once, and really wanted to do it

**4. How likely is it that you will attempt suicide someday?** (check one only)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 0. Never            | <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Likely        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1. No chance at all | <input type="checkbox"/> 5. Rather likely |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Rather unlikely  | <input type="checkbox"/> 6. Very likely   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Unlikely         |   |