



Mountain Plains (HHS Region 8)

MHTTC

Mental Health Technology Transfer Center Network

Funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

# Screening for, and Diagnosis of Depression in Primary Care

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# Disclaimer and Funding Statement

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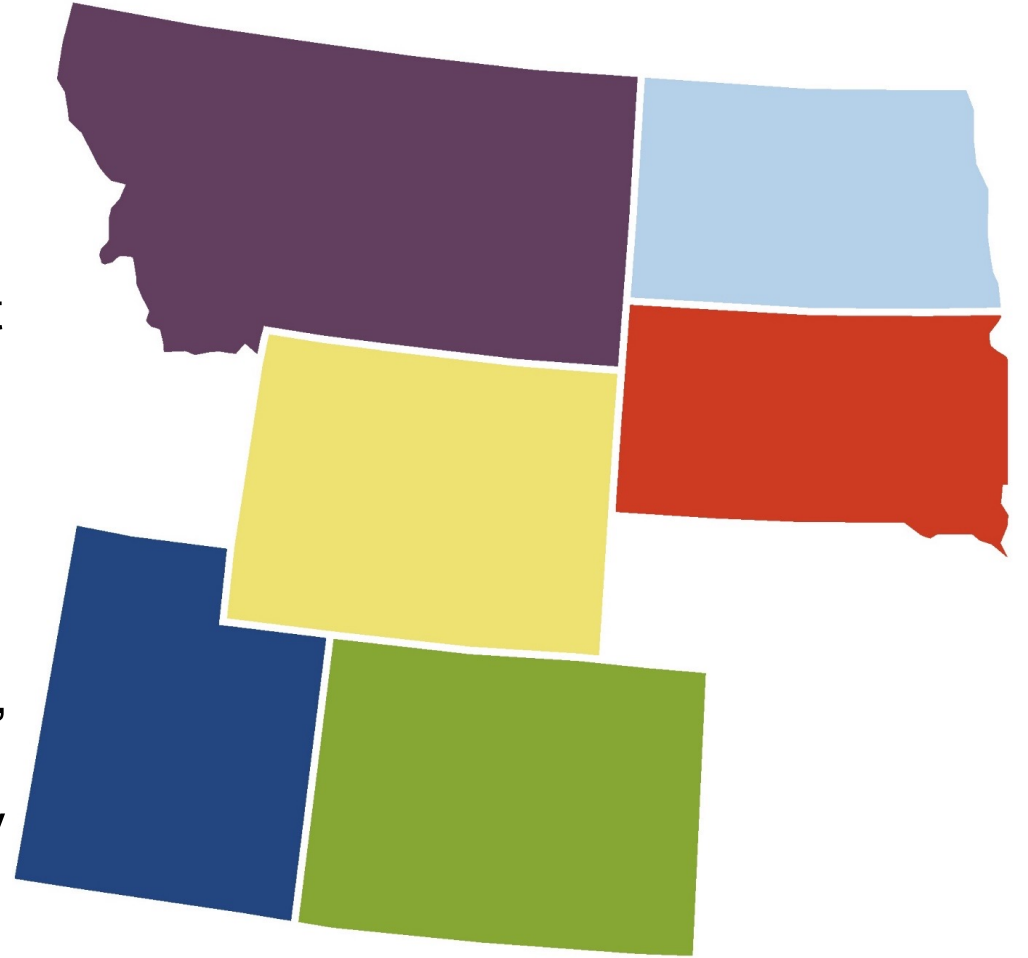
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# The Mountain Plains Mental Health Technology Transfer Center

The Mountain Plains Mental Health Technology Transfer Center (Mountain Plains MHTTC) provides training and technical assistance to individuals who serve persons with mental health concerns throughout Region 8 (Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah and Wyoming).

We belong to the Technology Transfer Center (TTC) Network, a national network of training and technical assistance centers serving the needs of mental health, substance use and prevention providers. The work of the TTC Network is under a cooperative agreement by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration (SAMHSA).





# Land Acknowledgement Statement

Today, the University of North Dakota rests on the ancestral lands of the Pembina and Red Lake Bands of Ojibwe and the Dakota Oyate - presently existing as composite parts of the Red Lake, Turtle Mountain, White Earth Bands, and the Dakota Tribes of Minnesota and North Dakota. We acknowledge the people who resided here for generations and recognize that the spirit of the Ojibwe and Oyate people permeates this land. As a university community, we will continue to build upon our relations with the First Nations of the State of North Dakota - the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation, Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate Nation, Spirit Lake Nation, Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, and Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians.



The MHTTC Network uses affirming, respectful and recovery-oriented language in all activities. That language is:

STRENGTHS-BASED  
AND HOPEFUL

INCLUSIVE AND  
ACCEPTING OF  
DIVERSE CULTURES,  
GENDERS,  
PERSPECTIVES,  
AND EXPERIENCES

HEALING-CENTERED AND  
TRAUMA-RESPONSIVE

INVITING TO INDIVIDUALS  
PARTICIPATING IN THEIR  
OWN JOURNEYS

PERSON-FIRST AND  
FREE OF LABELS

NON-JUDGMENTAL AND  
AVOIDING ASSUMPTIONS

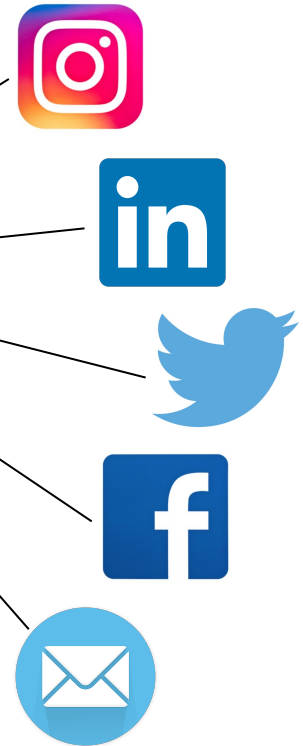
RESPECTFUL, CLEAR  
AND UNDERSTANDABLE

CONSISTENT WITH  
OUR ACTIONS,  
POLICIES, AND PRODUCTS

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# Series

- Feb. 15; Screening For and Diagnosis of Depression / Suicide Risk in Primary Care.
- March 1; Evidence-Based Treatment of Depression
- March 15; Pathways to Care: Building a Depression Follow-up Program





# Objectives

Following the presentation, the participant should:

- Have an understanding of the use of common screening tools for depression/suicide risk in primary care.
- Be able to identify common differentials/co-morbidities of depression
- Be able to utilize (or refer for) standard treatments of depression.

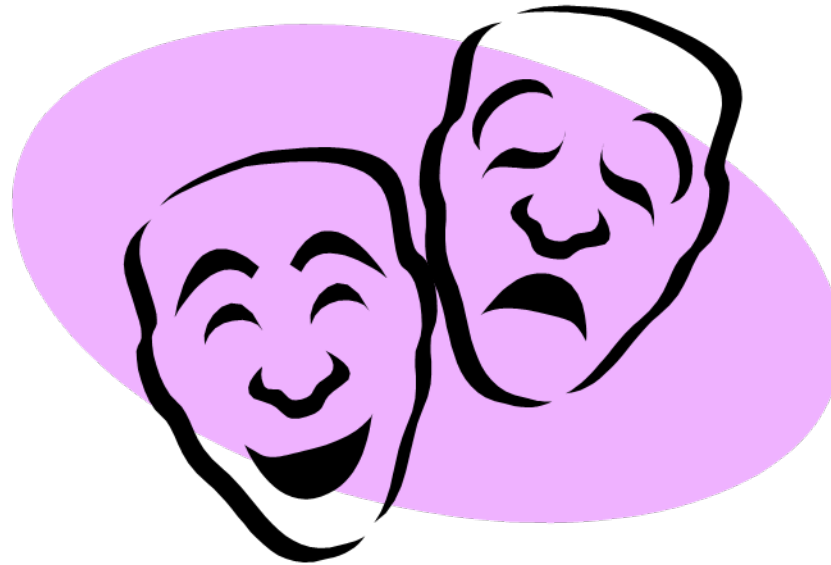


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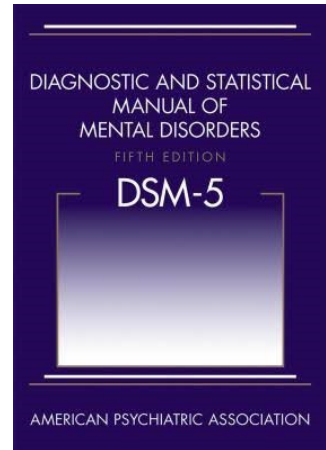
# Mood Disorders





# Depressive Disorders (not all)

- Major Depressive Disorder (Single / Recurrent episodes)
- Persistent Depressive Disorder (Dysthymia)
- Premenstrual Dysphoric Disorder
- Disruptive Mood Dysregulation Disorder
- Other (including medical conditions, bipolar depression...)





# Differential Diagnosis (What else could this be?)

- Medical conditions  
(thyroid disease, anemia, sleep disorders, infections, etc...)
- Other psychiatric disorders
- Medication side effects
- Bereavement
- Psychosocial stressors / adjustment
- Substance use
- Other

**COMORBIDITY IS THE RULE!**



## *Adult Depression in Primary Care Seventeenth Edition/March 2016*

### **Common presentations for patients not complaining of major depression or anhedonia include:**

- Multiple (more than five per year) medical visits
- Multiple unexplained symptoms
- Work or relationship dysfunction
- Dampened affect
- Changes in interpersonal relationships
- Poor behavioral follow-through with activities of daily living or prior treatment recommendations
- Weight gain or loss
- Sleep disturbance
- Fatigue
- Memory / other cognitive complaints such as difficulty concentrating or making decisions
- Irritable bowel syndrome
- Volunteered complaints of stress or mood disturbance



# Major Depressive Disorder—Diagnostic Criteria

**Five or more of the following symptoms are present most of the day, nearly every day, during a period of at least 2 consecutive weeks:**

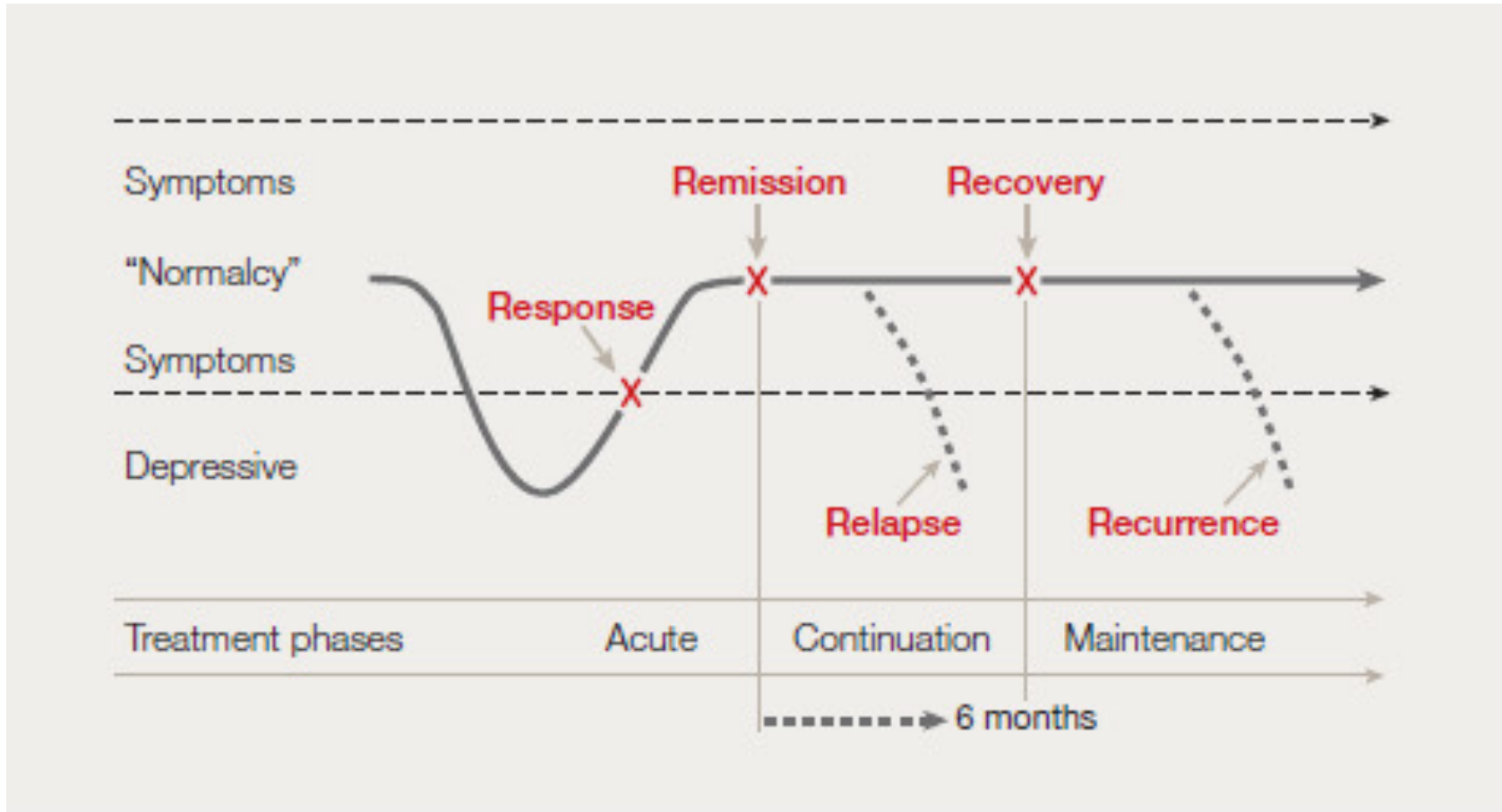
**At least 1  
of these  
2 symptoms**

1. Depressed mood
2. Loss of interest or pleasure in all, or almost all, usual activities
3. Significant weight loss when not dieting, or weight gain
4. Insomnia or hypersomnia
5. Psychomotor agitation or retardation
6. Fatigue or loss of energy
7. Feelings of worthlessness or excessive or inappropriate guilt
8. Diminished ability to think or concentrate or indecisiveness
9. Recurrent thoughts of death or suicide

Symptoms must cause clinically significant distress or impairment in social, occupational, or other important areas of functioning and are not attributable to another substance or medical condition DSM-5.



# Major Depressive Disorder



Remission: symptom free

Recovery: > 4 months post remission



# Severity and Course Specifiers

## SEVERITY

Mild

Moderate

Severe

With psychotic features

In partial remission

In full remission

## COURSE

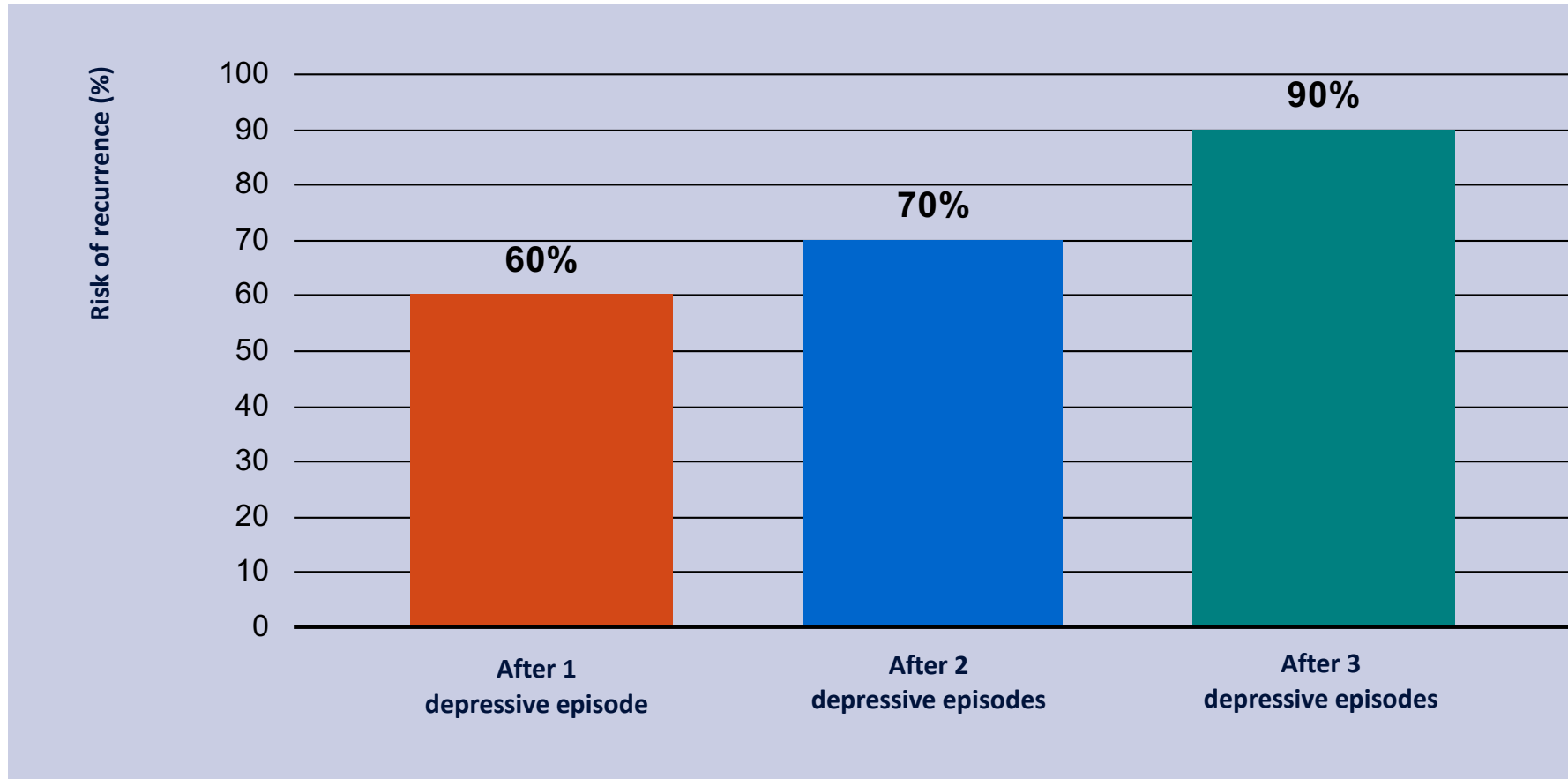
Single episode

Recurrent episode





# Depression-a highly recurrent disorder





# Screening Tools

Find one you are comfortable with, such as:

- PHQ-2 / PHQ-9 Symptom Checklist
- BDI (Beck Depression Inventory)

Many others...

- Consider using Mood Disorder Questionnaire to assist in ruling out / in Bipolar Affective Disorder

# PATIENT HEALTH QUESTIONNAIRE-9 (PHQ-9)

Over the last 2 weeks, how often have you been bothered by any of the following problems?  
(Use "✓" to indicate your answer)

	Not at all	Several days	More than half the days	Nearly every day
1. Little interest or pleasure in doing things	0	1	2	3
2. Feeling down, depressed, or hopeless	0	1	2	3
3. Trouble falling or staying asleep, or sleeping too much	0	1	2	3
4. Feeling tired or having little energy	0	1	2	3
5. Poor appetite or overeating	0	1	2	3
6. Feeling bad about yourself — or that you are a failure or have let yourself or your family down	0	1	2	3
7. Trouble concentrating on things, such as reading the newspaper or watching television	0	1	2	3
8. Moving or speaking so slowly that other people could have noticed? Or the opposite — being so fidgety or restless that you have been moving around a lot more than usual	0	1	2	3
9. Thoughts that you would be better off dead or of hurting yourself in some way	0	1	2	3

FOR OFFICE CODING   0   +        +        +         
=Total Score:       

If you checked off any problems, how difficult have these problems made it for you to do your work, take care of things at home, or get along with other people?

Not difficult  
at all

Somewhat  
difficult

Very  
difficult

Extremely  
difficult





# Interpretation/PHQ-9 scoring

- Use clinical judgment, treat the patient, not the score....

Total Score	Depression Severity
0-4	None
5-9	Mild
10-14	Moderate
15-19	Moderately Severe
20-27	Severe



# C-SSRS

	Past 1 Month	
1) Have you wished you were dead or wished you could go to sleep and not wake up?		
2) Have you actually had any thoughts about killing yourself?		
If YES to 2, answer questions 3, 4, 5 and 6 If NO to 2, go directly to question 6		
3) Have you thought about how you might do this?		
4) Have you had any intention of acting on these thoughts of killing yourself, as opposed to you have the thoughts but you definitely would not act on them?	High Risk	
5) Have you started to work out or worked out the details of how to kill yourself? Did you intend to carry out this plan?	High Risk	
Always Ask Question 6	Life-time	Past 3 Months
6) Have you done anything, started to do anything, or prepared to do anything to end your life? <i>Examples: Collected pills, obtained a gun, gave away valuables, wrote a will or suicide note, held a gun but changed your mind, cut yourself, tried to hang yourself, etc.</i>		High Risk

## Columbia-Suicide Severity Rating Scale



Any **YES** indicates that someone should seek behavioral healthcare.  
However, if the answer to 4, 5 or 6 is **YES**, seek **immediate help**: go to the emergency room, call 1-800-273-8255, text 741741 or call 911. **STAY WITH THEM** until they can be evaluated.



Download Columbia Protocol app



# Treatment of Major Depressive Disorder (expanded upon- 3/1/2022 presentation)

- **Psychotherapy** {Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT). Other therapies such as Interpersonal Psychotherapy, Problem Solving Therapy, etc... can be helpful. Usually provided for a number of weeks to months.}
- **Lifestyle** (Social Rhythms, etc...)
- **Medications** (for moderate to severe depression). Primarily antidepressant medications. Usually provided for a number of months (at least 6, depending on how many episodes) If Bipolar Depression, other medications
- **Procedural** For severe, unresponsive major depressive episode, Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT/ “shock treatment”) is sometimes necessary. Vagal Nerve Stimulation (VNS) is FDA approved, as is repetitive Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (rTMS). Esketamine nasal spray was recently approved.
- **Phototherapy** 10,000 lux for a brief period after awakening.
- **Other/alternatives:** Supplements?

# Summary of DSM-5 Classification of Bipolar Disorders

<b>Bipolar I</b>	<b>Bipolar II</b>	<b>Cyclothymic</b>	<b>Bipolar Disorder Other</b>
One or more manic or mixed episodes, usually accompanied by major depressive episodes	One or more major depressive episodes accompanied by at least one hypomanic episode	At least 2 years of numerous periods of hypomanic and depressive symptoms*	Substance induced, medical, unspecified, other specified...

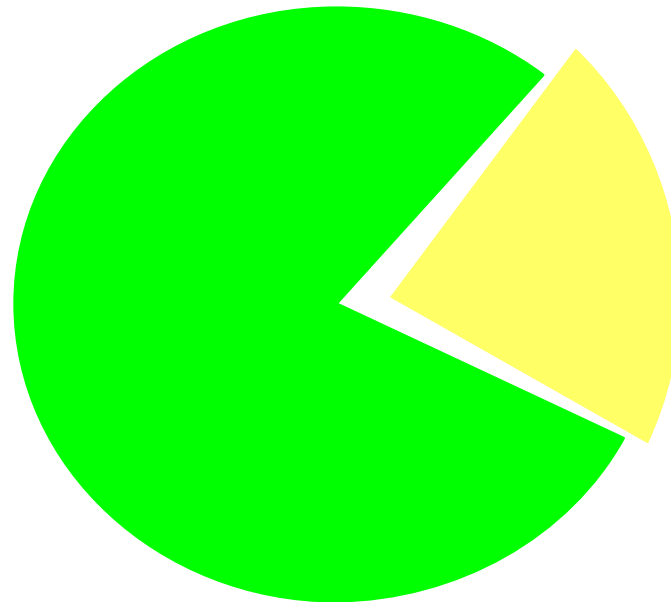
\* Symptoms do not meet criteria for manic and depressive episodes.



## Under-recognition of Bipolar Disorder Patients Treated for Depression in a Family Medicine Clinic

649 outpatients receiving  
treatment for depression

Estimated bipolar prevalence  
among 649 depressed  
patients ~ 28%



Screened positive\* for  
BD – 21%

MDQ sensitivity = 58%;  
MDQ specificity = 93%;  
based on Structured Clinical  
Interview for *DSM-IV* (SCID)

\*Using the Mood Disorder Questionnaire (MDQ)

BD = bipolar disorder

Hirschfeld RM, et al. *J Am Board Fam Pract.* 2005;18:233-239.





# Bipolar Depression \*

- **Clues:**

Might\*:

- be more “atypical” (think hibernation)
- have Hx of early, often abrupt onset / psychosis
- be associated with other cyclical problems (seasonal...)
- be associated with post-partum
- have family history
- have history of “overstimulation” with antidepressants.
- Migraines?





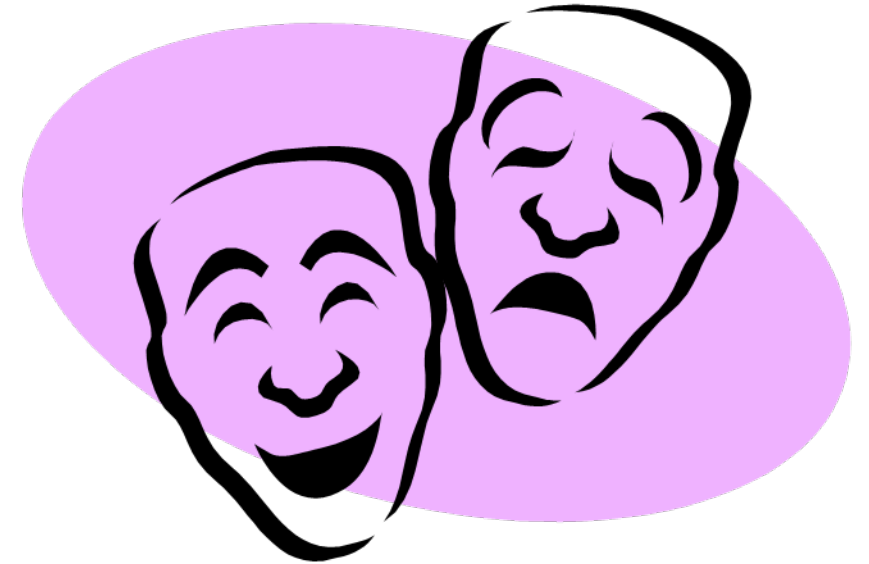
# Mixed Episode-DSM-5

- Interestingly, DSM-5 indicates can have:
  - Manic/hypomanic episodes with mixed features and/or
  - Depressive episodes with mixed features (more common in Bipolar II)



# Common Bipolar Mixed State

- “Dysphoric Hypomania”
- Often misdiagnosed as agitated depression, anxiety, histrionic personality
- Insomnia
- Suicidality
- Impulsivity



Different from “Rapid Cycling”  
which is actually 4 or more episodes per year

# THE MOOD DISORDER QUESTIONNAIRE

**Instructions:** Please answer each question to the best of your ability.

	YES	NO
1. Has there ever been a period of time when you were not your usual self and...		
...you felt so good or so hyper that other people thought you were not your normal self or you were so hyper that you got into trouble?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
...you were so irritable that you shouted at people or started fights or arguments?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
...you felt much more self-confident than usual?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
...you got much less sleep than usual and found you didn't really miss it?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
...you were much more talkative or spoke much faster than usual?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
...thoughts raced through your head or you couldn't slow your mind down?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
...you were so easily distracted by things around you that you had trouble concentrating or staying on track?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
...you had much more energy than usual?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
...you were much more active or did many more things than usual?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
...you were much more social or outgoing than usual, for example, you telephoned friends in the middle of the night?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
...you were much more interested in sex than usual?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
...you did things that were unusual for you or that other people might have thought were excessive, foolish, or risky?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
...spending money got you or your family into trouble?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. If you checked YES to more than one of the above, have several of these ever happened during the same period of time?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. How much of a problem did any of these cause you – like being unable to work; having family, money or legal troubles; getting into arguments or fights? <i>Please circle one response only.</i>		
No Problem    Minor Problem    Moderate Problem    Serious Problem		
4. Have any of your blood relatives (i.e. children, siblings, parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles) had manic-depressive illness or bipolar disorder?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. Has a health professional ever told you that you have manic-depressive illness or bipolar disorder?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

A “positive screen” is when:

--“Yes” to 7 or more questions in section 1

--“Yes” to section 2

--“Moderate” or “Serious” to section 3

Fair at sensitivity (+ when those have the illness),

Better at specificity (- when those don't have the illness).



# Tools

- “No Substitute for Good Clinical Skills”
- Longitudinal information
- Collateral information





# SBIRT (screening, brief intervention, referral to treatment)

- **SBIRT CONSISTS OF THREE MAJOR COMPONENTS:**
- **Screening** — a healthcare professional assesses a patient for risky substance use behaviors using standardized screening tools. Screening can occur in any healthcare setting
- **Brief Intervention** — a healthcare professional engages a patient showing risky substance use behaviors in a short conversation, providing feedback and advice
- **Referral to Treatment** — a healthcare professional provides a referral to brief therapy or additional treatment to patients who screen in need of additional services



# Occupational Hazard

## Physician suicide compared to the general population

- Twice the rate of the general population.
- For female physicians, four times the rate (same rate as male physicians)
- More substance abuse issues, historically
- More likely to have had emotional problems prior to college
- 1 / 3 had prior psychiatric hospitalization and were more likely to have had prior attempts
- More likely to be seeing mental health provider (depends on specialty)



# Additional Training Opportunities

RRSR-PC specifically addresses the U.S. Surgeon General's 2001 *National Strategy for Suicide Prevention's* Objective 7.2 to develop and promote effective clinical and professional practices in primary care settings, and Objectives 6.1 and 6.2 to implement training for recognition of at-risk behavior and delivery of effective treatment by nurses, physician assistants, and medical residents.

The RRSR-PC was developed by the American Association of Suicidology (AAS) with funding from the Irving and Barbara C. Gutin Charitable Fund to provide physicians, nurses/nurse practitioners, and physician assistants with the knowledge they need in order to include suicide risk assessments in routine office visits, to elicit risk where it exists, and work with patients to create treatment plans to reduce risk.

AAS is a membership organization for all those involved in suicide prevention and intervention, or touched by suicide. AAS is a leader in the advancement of scientific and programmatic efforts in suicide prevention through research, education and training, the development of standards and resources, and survivor support services.

For pricing information, please contact AAS.



5221 Wisconsin Ave. NW 2nd Floor  
Washington, DC 20015-2032

Phone (202) 237-2280  
Fax (202) 237-2282

[www.suicidology.org](http://www.suicidology.org)  
[info@suicidology.org](mailto:info@suicidology.org)

## Recognizing and Responding to Suicide Risk in Primary Care

### Information Brochure



**20% of those who died by suicide visited their PCP within 24 hours prior to their death.**

**You could be the last medical professional seen by a patient on the brink of a life or death decision.**

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# Resources

- <https://cssrs.columbia.edu/the-columbia-scale-c-cssrs/cssrs-for-communities-and-healthcare/#filter=.healthcare.english>
- <https://suicidology.org/training-accreditation/rrsr-primary-care/>



# Resources

## Suicide Prevention Resources

### Be a lifesaver

- +** **Visit**  
Your Primary Care Provider  
Mental Health Professional  
Walk-in Clinic  
Emergency Department  
Urgent Care Center
- 🔍** **Find a mental health provider**  
[findtreatment.samhsa.gov](http://findtreatment.samhsa.gov)  
[mentalhealthamerica.net/finding-help](http://mentalhealthamerica.net/finding-help)

- 📞** **Suicide Prevention Lifeline**  
1-800-273-TALK (8255)  
Veterans: Press 1

- 911** **Call 911 for emergencies**

- 📱** **CrisisChat.org**

- 📱** **Text TALK to 741741**  
Text with a trained crisis counselor from the Crisis Text Line for free, 24/7



[afsp.org/resources](http://afsp.org/resources)



July  
Coming in 2022:

# 988

## National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

About PSL In The Media f t Volunteer Portal

### Physician Support Line

## 1 (888) 409-0141

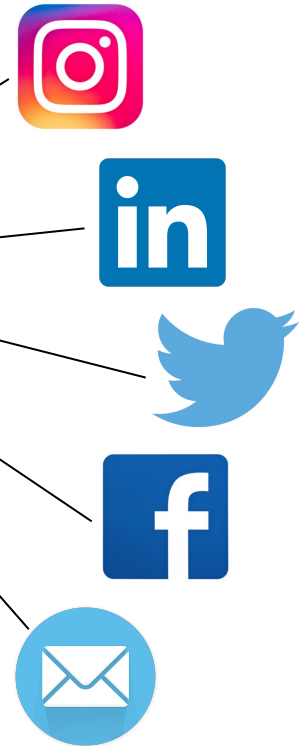
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# Questions? Comments?

