

SRA Scale

Suicide Risk Assessment Scale

• **Brandon Yip, Psy.D., J.D.** •

Suicide Risk Assessment (SRA) Scale



Copyright © 2015. Center for Risk Assessment. Developed by Dr. Brandon Yip, Psy.D., J.D. All rights reserved.

Warning: No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopy, recording, or any information storage and retrieval system, without permission in writing from the Center for Risk Assessment.

Center for Risk Assessment
www.centerforriskassessment.tk

Developed by Dr. Brandon Yip, Psy.D., J.D. (drbyip@outlook.com).

To be used in conjunction with Suicide Risk Assessment Table and Questions provided for and developed by the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline and Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services Suicide Prevention Center, based on the research by Joiner et al. (2007).

For permission to use material from this text or for further permissions questions, submit all requests to drbyip@outlook.com.

Suicide Risk Assessment

Suicidal ideations and behaviors and non-suicidal behaviors (otherwise known as self-harm) differ in their intentions, therefore they need to be differentiated and suicide assessments should only take place when a client endorses or exhibits suicidal ideations and behaviors (Nock et al., 2008).

Assessing for suicide is done in a multifaceted assessment. The Suicide Risk Assessment Scale has been devised based on the standard of suicide risk assessment developed for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. The domains or factors in which clients are evaluated on were found to increase or decrease a client's risk of acting out on their suicidal ideations based on a review of literature and research conducted by Joiner et al. (2007). Joiner et. (2007) found that assessing for a client's level of desire, intent, capability, and buffers through an array of questions, provides information that can be used for assessing their risk. However, Joiner et al. (2007) explains that there is an interrelation between these factors that when combined, provide a picture of one's risk level of acting out on their suicidal ideations. Thus, this method of assessment has been seen as a golden standard for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline and has been implemented across the lifeline.

Although these factors of assessing for suicide found by Joiner et al. (2007) have been found to be valuable when deciphering a client's suicidal thoughts, it is important to also note that there are other domains that can impact suicide risk that is not assessed for in this assessment. These domains include the application of being culturally sensitive when assessing for suicide. Some cultural factors to be aware of when assessing for suicidality include the impact of interpersonal relationships of the client, specifically around support and conflict within family dynamics and interpersonal relationships; along with intrapersonal conflicts related to self-perception and self-efficacy of the client. Thus, the Suicide Risk Assessment Scale should not be used in replacement of clinical judgment and all ethical and legal guidelines including guidelines for consultation and documentation should occur.

Contents That Follow

Through literature reviews and material provided by Didi Hirsh Mental Health Services' Suicide Prevention Center, a member of the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, the numerical quantitative structured rating scale for suicide risk assessment was devised as established as a means for assessing clients at crisis hotlines. The content that follows are to be used to evaluate and assess clients, patients, callers, or individuals who may or may not be presenting suicidal ideations or thoughts and its severity.

The page contains copyrighted psychological testing material.

For test security this page has been removed.

Please contact the publisher for a copy of this assessment.

The page contains copyrighted psychological testing material.

For test security this page has been removed.

Please contact the publisher for a copy of this assessment.