

Zero Suicide Initiative Pathway v1.0: ED Screening

[Approval & Citation](#)

[Summary of Version Changes](#)

[Explanation of Evidence Ratings](#)

ED SUICIDE RISK SCREENING

Primary References

- National Institute of Mental Health
- Ask Suicide-Screening Questions ([ASQ](#)) Toolkit
- Brief Suicide Safety Assessment ([BSSA](#))
- Nursing [script](#) to say to the parent/guardian and the patient

Inclusion Criteria

- All patients ≥ 10 years old

Exclusion Criteria

- Unable to answer questions due to medical acuity or developmental delay

!

If parent/guardian refuses to allow screening questions, notify medical team

ASQ

- In the past few weeks, have you wished you were dead?
- In the past few weeks, have you felt that you or others would be better off if you were dead?
- In the past week, have you been having thoughts about killing yourself? If yes, do you have a plan?
- Have you ever tried to kill yourself? If yes, when and how?
- Are you having thoughts of killing yourself right now?

RN completes ASQ (# 1 – 4)

Any "Yes" to ASQ questions 1 through 4?

! Any "Yes" is a Positive Screen

No Further Action

Yes

RN completes ASQ (# 5)

"Yes" to ASQ question 5?

Yes

RN

- Notifies provider (MD or ARNP)
- Initiates ED MH GOC

ED medical disposition?

Admit

Discharge

Provider orders inpatient Suicide Precautions Plan

Psych Consult does evaluation on Acute Care Unit / ICU (include in shift handoff)

MHE does evaluation in ED prior to discharge

Huddle with MHE regarding plan prior to ED discharge

No

RN

Notifies provider (MD or ARNP)

ED medical disposition?

Admit

Discharge

Social Work does BSSA on Acute Care Unit / ICU (include in shift handoff)

MHE does BSSA in ED prior to discharge

Huddle with MHE regarding plan prior to ED discharge

!

If parent/guardian refuses MHE evaluation, offer:

- Follow up phone call from mental health team
- Crisis Prevention Planning with PMHS II
- Resource list
- Call / notify PCP

Zero Suicide Initiative Pathway v1.0: Inpatient Screening

[Approval & Citation](#)

[Summary of Version Changes](#)

[Explanation of Evidence Ratings](#)

INPATIENT SUICIDE RISK SCREENING

Primary References

- National Institute of Mental Health
- Ask Suicide-Screening Questions ([ASQ](#)) Toolkit
- Brief Suicide Safety Assessment ([BSSA](#))
- Nursing [script](#) to say to the parent/guardian and the patient

Inclusion Criteria

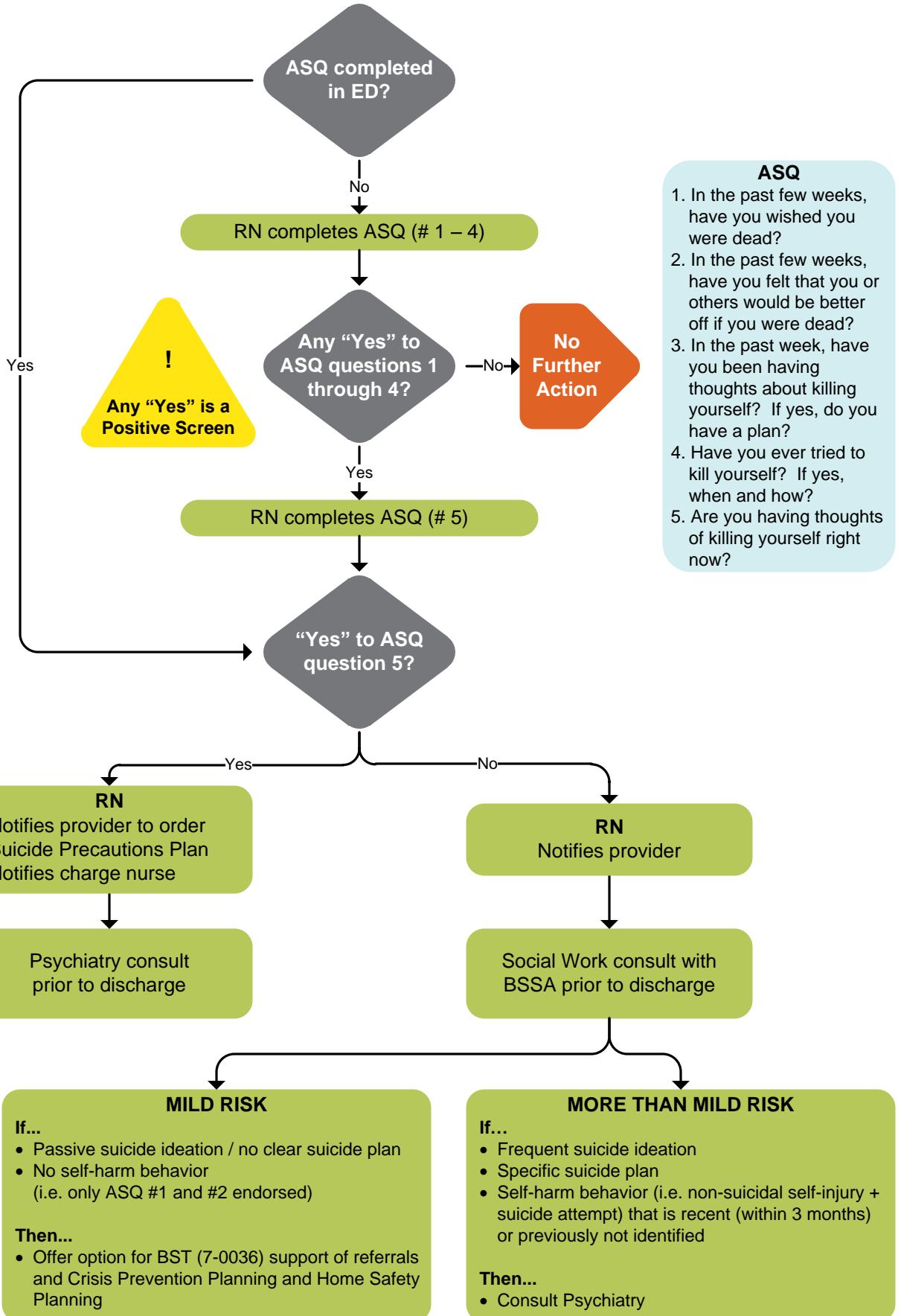
- All patients ≥ 10 years old

Exclusion Criteria

- Unable to answer questions due to medical acuity or developmental delay

!

If parent/guardian refuses to allow screening questions, notify medical team



ASQ

- In the past few weeks, have you wished you were dead?
- In the past few weeks, have you felt that you or others would be better off if you were dead?
- In the past week, have you been having thoughts about killing yourself? If yes, do you have a plan?
- Have you ever tried to kill yourself? If yes, when and how?
- Are you having thoughts of killing yourself right now?

! Any "Yes" is a Positive Screen

No Further Action

CSW Zero Suicide Initiative Pathway Approval & Citation

Approved by the CSW Zero Suicide Initiative Pathway team for go-live on March 20, 2019

CSW Zero Suicide Initiative Pathway Team:

Psychiatry & Behavioral Medicine, Owner	Molly Adrian, PhD
Psychiatry & Behavioral Medicine, Owner	Erika Miller, BSN, RN-BC
Emergency Medicine, Stakeholder	Elaine Beardsley, MN, ACCNS-P, CPEN
Medical Unit, Team Member	Christine Delos Reyes, MN, RN, CPN
Emergency Medicine, Team Member	Sara Fenstermacher, MSN, RN, ACCNS-P
Nursing Informatics, Stakeholder	Laura Graham, BSN, RN-BC
Medical Unit, Team Member	Ellie McMahon, MSN, RN, CPN
Social Work, Stakeholder	Debra Roseberry, MSW, LICSW

Clinical Effectiveness Team:

Consultant	Lori Rutman, MD, MPH
Project Manager	Ivan Meyer, PMP
CIS Analyst	Maria Jerome
Data Analyst	Noah Espinoza, MPH
Informatician	Carlos Villavicencio, MD, MS/MI
Librarian	Sue Groshong, MLIS
Program Coordinator	Kristyn Simmons

Executive Approval:

Sr. VP, Chief Medical Officer	Mark Del Beccaro, MD
Sr. VP, Chief Clinical Officer	Madlyn Murrey, RN, MN

Retrieval Website: <http://www.seattlechildrens.org/pdf/zero-suicide-initiative-pathway.pdf>

Please cite as:

Seattle Children's Hospital, M Adrian, E Miller, E Beardsley, C Delos Reyes, S Fenstermacher, L Graham, E McMahon, D Roseberry, 2019 March. Zero Suicide Initiative Pathway. Available from: <http://www.seattlechildrens.org/pdf/zero-suicide-initiative-pathway.pdf>.

Evidence Ratings

This pathway was developed through local consensus based on published evidence and expert opinion as part of Clinical Standard Work at Seattle Children's. Pathway teams include representatives from Medical, Subspecialty, and/or Surgical Services, Nursing, Pharmacy, Clinical Effectiveness, and other services as appropriate.

When possible, we used the GRADE method of rating evidence quality. Evidence is first assessed as to whether it is from randomized trial or cohort studies. The rating is then adjusted in the following manner (from: Guyatt G et al. J Clin Epidemiol. 2011;4:383-94.):

Quality ratings are *downgraded* if studies:

- Have serious limitations
- Have inconsistent results
- If evidence does not directly address clinical questions
- If estimates are imprecise OR
- If it is felt that there is substantial publication bias

Quality ratings are *upgraded* if it is felt that:

- The effect size is large
- If studies are designed in a way that confounding would likely underreport the magnitude of the effect OR
- If a dose-response gradient is evident

Guideline – Recommendation is from a published guideline that used methodology deemed acceptable by the team.

Expert Opinion – Our expert opinion is based on available evidence that does not meet GRADE criteria (for example, case-control studies).

Quality of Evidence:

★★★★ High quality

★★★○ Moderate quality

★★○○ Low quality

★○○○ Very low quality

Guideline

Expert Opinion

[Return to ED](#)

[Return to Inpatient](#)

[To Bibliography](#)

Summary of Version Changes

- **Version 1.0 (3/20/2019):** Go live.

[Return to ED](#)

[Return to Inpatient](#)

Medical Disclaimer

Medicine is an ever-changing science. As new research and clinical experience broaden our knowledge, changes in treatment and drug therapy are required.

The authors have checked with sources believed to be reliable in their efforts to provide information that is complete and generally in accord with the standards accepted at the time of publication.

However, in view of the possibility of human error or changes in medical sciences, neither the authors nor Seattle Children's Healthcare System nor any other party who has been involved in the preparation or publication of this work warrants that the information contained herein is in every respect accurate or complete, and they are not responsible for any errors or omissions or for the results obtained from the use of such information.

Readers should confirm the information contained herein with other sources and are encouraged to consult with their health care provider before making any health care decision.

[Return to ED](#)

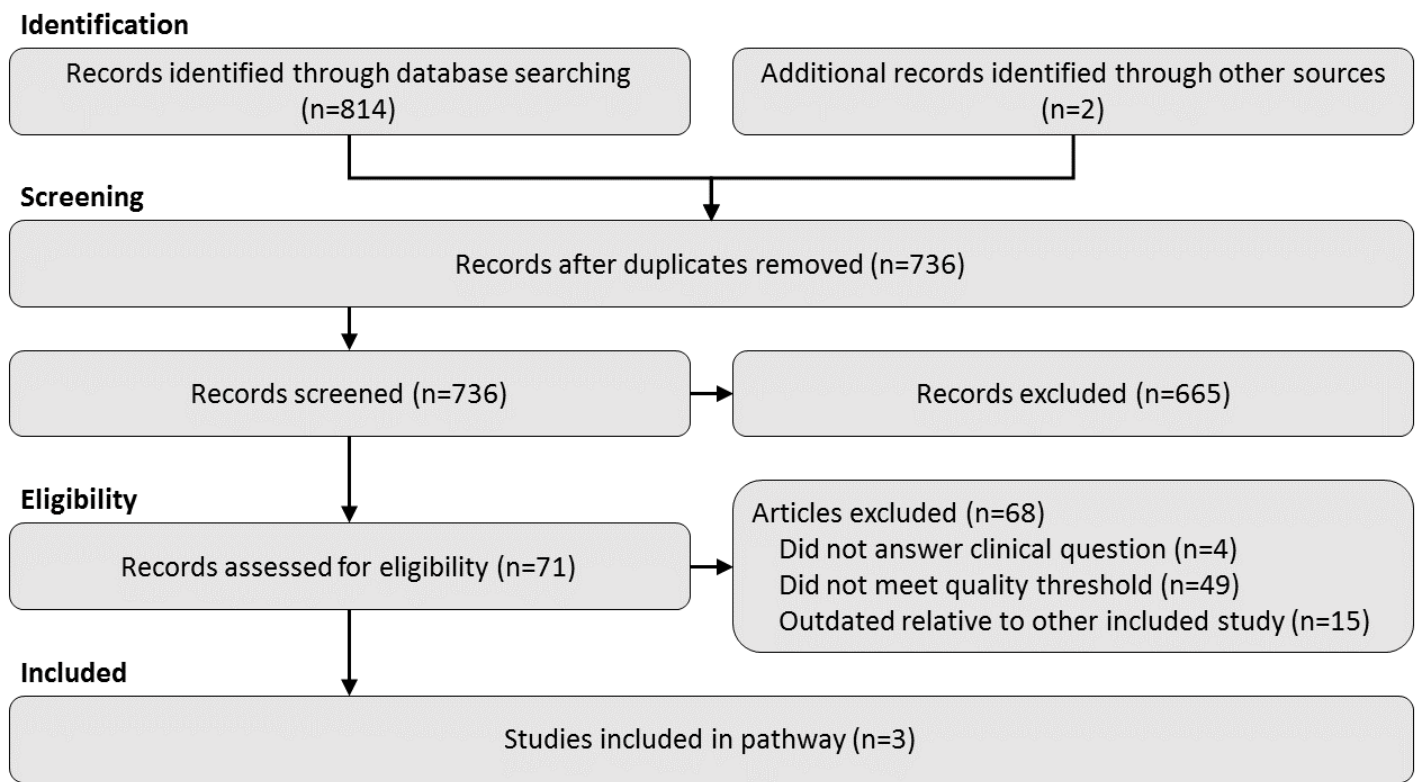
[Return to Inpatient](#)

Bibliography

Search Methods, Zero Suicide, Clinical Standard Work

A literature search was conducted in April 2018 to target synthesized literature on suicide for 2008 to current and limited to English. The search was executed in Ovid Medline, Embase, Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews (CDSR), National Guideline Clearinghouse and Turning Research into Practice (TRIP) databases and Cincinnati Children's Evidence-Based Care Recommendations.

Sue Groshong, MLIS
February 19, 2019



Flow diagram adapted from Moher D et al. BMJ 2009;339:bmj.b2535

Bibliography

- Brahmbhatt K, Kurtz BP, Afzal KI, et al. Suicide risk screening in pediatric hospitals: Clinical pathways to address a global health crisis. *Psychosomatics*. 2018. Accessed 2/14/2019 5:50:21 PM. <https://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.psym.2018.09.003>.
- Carter G, Milner A, McGill K, Pirkis J, Kapur N, Spittal MJ. Predicting suicidal behaviours using clinical instruments: Systematic review and meta-analysis of positive predictive values for risk scales. *Br J Psychiatry [ZS]*. 2017;210(6):387-395. Accessed 4/16/2018 3:19:43 PM. <https://dx.doi.org/10.1192/bjp.bp.116.182717>.
- Horowitz LM, Bridge JA, Teach SJ, et al. Ask suicide-screening questions (ASQ): A brief instrument for the pediatric emergency department. *Arch Pediatr Adolesc Med*. 2012;166(12):1170-1176. Accessed 2/14/2019 5:50:21 PM. <https://dx.doi.org/10.1001/archpediatrics.2012.1276>.