

## **Sentinel Event Alert #56: Detecting and treating suicide ideation in all settings**

### **Joint Commission requirements relevant to suicide**

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## **HOSPITALS**

### **Environment of Care (EC)**

**EC.02.06.01:** The hospital establishes and maintains a safe, functional environment.

### **National Patient Safety Goals (NPSG)**

**NPSG.15.01.01, Element of Performance (EP) 1:** Conduct a risk assessment that identifies specific patient characteristics and environmental features that may increase or decrease the risk for suicide.

**EP 2:** Address the patient's immediate safety needs and most appropriate setting for treatment.

**EP 3:** When a patient at risk for suicide leaves the care of the hospital, provide suicide prevention information (such as a crisis hotline) to the patient and his or her family.

### **Provision of Care, Treatment, and Services (PC)**

**PC.01.01.01, EP 24:** If a patient is boarded while awaiting care for emotional illness and/or the effects of alcoholism or substance abuse, the hospital does the following:

- Provides for a location for the patient that is safe, monitored, and clear of items that the patient could use to harm himself or herself or others.
- Provides orientation and training to any clinical and nonclinical staff caring for such patients in effective and safe care, treatment, and services (for example, medication protocols, de-escalation techniques).
- Conducts assessments and reassessments, and provides care consistent with the patient's identified needs.

**PC.01.02.01:** The hospital assesses and reassesses its patients.

**PC.01.02.13:** The hospital assesses the need of patients who receive treatment for emotional and behavioral disorders.

**PC.04.01.01:** The hospital has a process that addresses the patient's need for continuing care, treatment, and services after discharge or transfer.

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## **AMBULATORY CARE**

### **Provision of Care, Treatment, and Services (PC)**

**PC.04.01.01:** The organization has a process that addresses the patient's need for continuing care, treatment, or services after discharge or transfer.

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## **BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**

### **Care, Treatment, and Services (CTS)**

**CTS.02.01.01:** The organization has a screening procedure for the early detection of risk of imminent harm to self or others.

### **Environment of Care (EC)**

**EC.02.01.01:** The organization manages safety and security risks.

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**National Patient Safety Goal (NPSG)**

**NPSG.15.01.01, EP 1:** Conduct a risk assessment that identifies specific characteristics of the individual served and environmental features that may increase or decrease the risk for suicide.

**EP 2:** Address the immediate safety needs and most appropriate setting for treatment of the individual served.

**EP 3:** When an individual at risk for suicide leaves the care of the organization, provide suicide prevention information (such as a crisis hotline) to the individual and his or her family.

**Performance Improvement (PI)**

**PI.01.01.01:** The organization collects data to monitor its performance.

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**HOME CARE**

**Provision of Care, Treatment, and Services (PC)**

**PC.04.01.01:** The organization has a process that addresses the patient's need for continuing care, treatment, or services after discharge or transfer.

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**NURSING CARE CENTERS**

**Provision of Care, Treatment, and Services (PC)**

**PC.04.01.01:** The organization has a process that addresses transitions in the patient's or resident's care.

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**OFFICE-BASED SURGERY**

**Provision of Care, Treatment, and Services (PC)**

**PC.04.01.01:** The practice has a process that addresses the patient's need for continuing care, treatment, or services after discharge or transfer.