

**Suicide Prevention Resources to support Joint Commission Accredited organizations implementation of NPSG 15.01.01**

**EP1 – Environmental Risk Assessment**

Tools	Brief Description
<p><a href="#"><u>ASHE Patient Safety and Ligature Identification Checklist</u></a></p> <p><b>ASHE On Demand: <a href="#"><u>A Safe Health Care Environment: Suicide, Self-Harm, and Ligature Risk Assessments</u></a></b></p> <p><b>ASHE Virtual Rounding Tools</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#"><u>Virtual Rounding Tool: General Acute Care Patient Room</u></a></li> <li>• <a href="#"><u>Virtual Rounding Tool: General Acute Patient Care Bathroom</u></a></li> </ul> <p><b>ASHE Three-step ligature risk guidance for general acute care or emergency departments</b></p> <p><b>Settings:</b> Hospital, other</p> <p><b>Availability:</b> Free to ASHE members</p>	<p><b>The American Society for Health Care Engineering of the American Hospital Association (ASHE)</b> developed multiple tools and resources on ligature risks in the physical environment to help hospitals and other health care facilities understand and implement CMS guidance and Joint Commission recommendations related to establishing a policy to perform an environmental-risk assessment when an at-risk patient is present. The tools are available free of charge to ASHE members. Information about the tools can be found on the ASHE News and Resources web page: <a href="http://www.ashe.org/resources/preventing-self-harm-and-ligature-risks.shtml">http://www.ashe.org/resources/preventing-self-harm-and-ligature-risks.shtml</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <a href="#"><u>ASHE Patient Safety and Ligature Identification Checklist</u></a> can be used to create ligature-resistant environments when 1:1 continuous observation is not practical. While it is not meant to be exhaustive, it is intended to help understand the possible patient and staff safety risks, potential ligature points and other self-harm concerns for behavioral health areas. It is categorized by room type and contains items that are known to pose specific ligature or self-harm risks.</li> <li>• The ASHE On Demand: <a href="#"><u>A Safe Health Care Environment: Suicide, Self-Harm, and Ligature Risk Assessments</u></a> is a recording that focuses on the process of risk assessment and mitigation of behavioral health patient safety physical risks.</li> <li>• The <a href="#"><u>ASHE Three-step ligature risk guidance</u></a> for general acute care or emergency departments provides a three-step approach (<b>Identify; Observe; Remove</b>) to managing ligature risks and preventing patient self-harm in general acute care or emergency departments. These steps do not apply for psychiatric units.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Recommending Organizations:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The American Society for Health Care Engineering of the American Hospital Association</li> </ol>
<p><b>The Mental Health Environment of Care Checklist (MHEOCC) (05/24/2018, XLS)</b></p>	<p>The US Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) developed the <a href="#"><u>Mental Health Environment of Care Checklist (MHEOCC)</u></a> for VA Hospitals to review inpatient mental health units for environmental hazards. The purpose is to identify and abate environmental hazards that could increase the chance of patient suicide or self-harm. The checklist has been used in all VA mental health units since October 2007. Contact <a href="mailto:Peter.Mills@va.gov">Peter.Mills@va.gov</a> for more information.</p>

<p><b>The Mental Health Guide</b></p> <p><b>Author:</b> US Department of Veteran Affairs VA</p> <p><b>Settings:</b> Hospitals</p> <p><b>Availability:</b> Free  <a href="https://www.patientsafety.va.gov/docs/joe/eps_mental_health_guide.pdf">https://www.patientsafety.va.gov/docs/joe/eps_mental_health_guide.pdf</a></p>	<p>The <a href="#">Mental Health Guide</a> was developed by a multidisciplinary team comprising of members from the VA National Center for Patient Safety, Nursing, Safety, Environmental Management, and Interior Design to provide guidance and education to the field in relation to determining products suitable for the locked Inpatient Mental Health Environment. The Guide offers recommended products and solutions, is accessed electronically and was designed to be a “living” document updated as new products are identified and verified. It contains the following resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Products and ideas for use in Inpatient Mental Health areas, including both positive and cautionary attributes to consider before purchase.</li> <li>• Products developed by industry with feedback from Integrated Product Team members.</li> <li>• Background to educate staff to evaluate products at the facility level.</li> <li>• Training module and sample checklists for non-clinical staff who may access a locked inpatient mental health unit for routine maintenance and inspection.</li> </ul> <p>The products and manufacturers represented in the guide do not represent an endorsement by the VA for any manufacturer or vendor.</p> <p><b><u>Recommending Organizations:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The VA US Department of Veterans Affairs</li> </ol> <p><b><u>Evidence/ Development:</u></b>  The Mental Health Guide was developed as a result of research by a multidisciplinary workgroup from VAs across the country and collaboration with product manufacturers.</p>
<p><b>Behavioral Health Design Guide Edition 7.3</b>  © 2018 Behavioral Health Facility Consulting, LLC</p> <p><b>Authors:</b> James M. Hunt, AIA  David M. Sine, DrBE, CSP, ARM, CPHRM</p> <p><b>Settings:</b> BHC units</p> <p><b>Availability:</b> Free  <a href="http://www.bhfcllc.com/download-the-design-guide/">http://www.bhfcllc.com/download-the-design-guide/</a></p>	<p>The <b>Behavioral Health Design Guide</b> is intended to address the built environment of the general adult inpatient behavioral health care unit. The document details practical means of protecting patients and staff. It is intended to represent best current practices, in the opinion of the authors. It is intended to represent best current practices, in the opinion of the authors.</p> <p>The Guide is updated frequently, and the date of each edition is indicated on the cover and at the bottom of each page of the document. Readers are urged to check: <a href="http://www.bhfcllc.com">www.bhfcllc.com</a> whenever referring to this Guide to assure the latest information is being accessed.</p> <p><b><u>Recommending Organizations:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Behavioral Health Facility Consulting, LLC</li> </ol> <p><b><u>Evidence/ Development:</u></b>  Authorship by national experts</p>

**Patient Safety Standards,  
Materials and Systems  
Guidelines Recommended  
by the New York State Office  
of Mental Health**

14th Edition | July 31, 2015

**Author:** NYS-OMH

**Settings:** Inpatient psychiatric  
units

**Availability:** Free

[https://www.omh.ny.gov/omh/web/patient\\_safety\\_standards/guide.pdf](https://www.omh.ny.gov/omh/web/patient_safety_standards/guide.pdf)

The purpose of the New York office of mental health environmental guide is to provide a selection of materials, fixtures, and hardware that the NYS-OMH has reviewed and supports for use within inpatient psychiatric units throughout New York State. While installation of these products will not eliminate all risks, the items selected represent styles and properties of products that help lower patient risk while on an inpatient psychiatric unit. Many of the items in this document represent the current state of the art and it is anticipated that additional or more effective products will continue to be developed. The NYS-OMH intends to periodically update these guidelines to keep current with these changes but notes that hospitals also have an obligation to continue to review products that will assist in this goal. Utilization of any of these products is not mandatory.

This document is not intended to provide guidance for outpatient psychiatric facilities.

**Recommending Organizations:**

1. New York State Office of Mental Health

**Evidence/ Development:**

Review and evaluation by NY-OMH