# **Table of Contents**

Introduction

## **CHAPTER 1: Identifying Suicide Risks: An Overview**

Joint Commission Requirements

Minimize Risk in the Physical Environment

Screen and Assess Patients for Suicide Risk

Mitigate Risk for Patients Identified as Suicide Risks

Screening Factors

Special Populations

**Lethality Factors** 

**Protective Factors** 

## CHAPTER 2: Addressing Environmental Risks in the Health Care Facility to Prevent Suicide

Minimizing Environmental Risks

Recommendations for Locked Inpatient Psychiatric Units

Recommendations for General/Acute Inpatient Settings

**Recommendations for Emergency Departments** 

Recommendations for Residential, Partial Hospitalization, Day Treatment, and Intensive Outpatient Programming Facilities

**Reducing Access to Means** 

**Reducing Opportunity** 

**Environmental Risk Assessments** 

Addressing Identified Risks

Improving Staff Awareness and Support

### **Tool to Try**

Tool 2-1. Environmental Risks for Suicide Assessment Checklist

#### **CHAPTER 3: Keeping the At-Risk Patient Safe**

Suicide Screening

Suicide Assessments

Chronological Assessment of Suicide Events (CASE)

Initial Clinical Interventions

Staff Training

Witnessing a Patient Suicide

### CHAPTER 4: Transitioning the At-Risk Patient to the Next Phase of Care

Preparing for Discharge

Patient and Family Involvement

Patient and Family Resources

Setting Transitions

Following Up with the Patient

Written Suicide Prevention Policy

### **Tools to Try**

Tool 4-1. Coping Strategies Preferences Form

Tool 4-2. Procedures for Counseling and Follow-Up Care for Individuals at Risk of Suicide After Discharge

Tool 4-3. Suicide Prevention Policy Assessment Checklist

Appendix

Index