

Assessment of High-Risk Teen Suicide Attempters

"SAD PERSONS" + Family History

- SEX (females attempt more but males* complete)
- AGE over 16 *
- DEPRESSION (and comorbid conduct disorder/impulsive aggression/anxiety)

- PREVIOUS ATTEMPTS*
- ETHANOL ABUSE (or substance abuse)
- RATIONAL THINKING LOST (e.g., psychotic/intoxicated)**
- SOCIAL SUPPORTS LACKING *
- ORGANIZED PLAN **(highly lethal or unusual method with wish to die/concealment)
- NO SIGNIFICANT OTHER (no trusted friend or confidante)
- SICKNESS (stressors)

- FIRST-DEGREE RELATIVE (of a completer)*

* Critical item

Adapted by GLAD-PC from Patterson W.M., et al. (1983). Evaluation of suicidal patients: The SAD PERSONS scale. *Psychosomatics*, 24 (4), 343-349.

This scale was designed and tested for the evaluation of all ages of attempters who presented to emergency rooms. It is adapted here for use with teens.