### Patient Health Questionnaire PHQ-9

#### Depression

The PHQ-9 is a validated diagnostic and tracking tool.

**Depression Screening:** A score of 2 or 3 on Question 1 and/or 2 is positive. If depression screen is negative, consider other diagnoses.

**Question A** assesses functional impairment; a score of at least "somewhat difficult" is positive.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PHQ-9 scores</th>
<th>Symptoms</th>
<th>Treatment Recommendations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10-14</td>
<td>MILD</td>
<td>Consider watchful waiting. If active treatment is needed, medication or psychotherapy is equally effective.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-19</td>
<td>MODERATE</td>
<td>Active treatment with medication OR psychotherapy. Consider referral to care management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>≥ 20</td>
<td>SEVERE</td>
<td>Medication treatment recommended. For many people, psychotherapy is useful in addition. People with severe symptoms often benefit from consultation with a psychiatrist.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Suicide Risk Factors:

**Near-term:**
- Significant comorbid anxiety or psychotic symptoms
- Active substance abuse
- Access to firearms

**Long-term:**
- Prior suicide attempts
- Social isolation/living alone
- Male and elderly
- Hopelessness
- Family history of completed suicide

**Question 9:** Assesses suicidal ideation. A score of 1 or more is positive.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Suicide Risk Assessment</th>
<th>Risk Level</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No current thoughts of harming self and no other major risk factors.</td>
<td>LOW</td>
<td>Continue follow-up visits and counseling.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current thoughts of harming or killing self, but lack either means or present intent. No previous attempts and/or other major risk factors.</td>
<td>INTERMEDIATE</td>
<td>Close follow-up utilizing clinical visits. Consider referral to mental health specialist. Offer Crisis Program information including the state-wide crisis number: 1-888-568-1112.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current thoughts or attempts of harming or killing self, with means and intent to follow-through.</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
<td>Refer for immediate assessment with mental health specialist, local crisis program, or local emergency department.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Generalized Anxiety Disorder (GAD-7)

#### Generalized Anxiety, PTSD, Panic, Social Anxiety

The GAD-7 is a validated diagnostic tool.

**Anxiety Screening:** A score of 2 or 3 on Question 1 and/or 2 is positive. If anxiety screen is negative, consider other diagnoses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GAD-7 scores</th>
<th>Symptoms</th>
<th>Treatment Recommendations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5-9</td>
<td>MILD</td>
<td>Consider watchful waiting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-14</td>
<td>MODERATE</td>
<td>Further diagnostic assessment required by PCP or mental health professional. Consider medication &amp;/or psychotherapy. (Combination is most effective.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>≥ 15</td>
<td>SEVERE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Mood Disorder Questionnaire (MDQ)

**Bipolar Disorder**  
For a positive screen, all 3 of the following criteria must be met:  
- **Question 1:** 7/13 positive (yes) responses +  
- **Question 2:** Positive (yes) response +  
- **Question 3:** "moderate" or "serious" response  

Diagnosis of bipolar disorder can not be based on information from the MDQ alone. Next steps might include:  
- Referral for further mental health assessment.  
- Further diagnostic evaluation by PCP.  
- **Consult and/or refer to Mental Health Specialist** to help confirm diagnosis and plan treatment.  
  Refer immediately if a patient demonstrates unmanageable behaviors (e.g., suicidality, psychosis, or violence).  
If you suspect bipolar illness, it may be risky to start anti-depressants without a mood stabilizer. Consultation or referral to a psychiatrist or psychiatric NP is recommended when bipolar illness is suspected.

### AC-OK

**Substance Abuse Screening**  
One “yes” answer suggests further assessment for alcohol or drug abuse.  
The AC-OK is **not diagnostic**. It is a screening tool to help identify potential areas that may need further assessment.

### Sleep

**Sleep**  
A “yes” answer suggests further assessment of sleep. A sleep problem may be related to a mental health diagnosis. Helping the patient with the sleep problem may help them recover from the mental health problem.

1. Assess the reason for the sleep problem: e.g., sleep apnea, too much caffeine, etc.  
2. Sleep problems may be approached in a stepwise fashion:  
   - sleep hygiene such as the environment in which the patient is sleeping, caffeine intake and others  
   - brief problem focused psychotherapy  
   - pharmacology – e.g., trazodone, benzodiazepenes if no significant abuse risk, other hypnotics

### Adult ADHD Self-Report Scale (ASRS-v1.1) Symptom Checklist

**Adult ADHD**  
**Part A.** If 4 or more answers are positive (Questions 1-3: Sometimes, Often or Very Often; Questions 4-6 Often or Very Often), **the patient has symptoms highly consistent with ADHD in adults and further investigation is warranted.** The 6 questions in Part A are most predictive.  
**Part B.** No total score or diagnostic likelihood is used for these 12 questions. Use these scores to probe further into the patient’s symptoms. Pay particular attention to marks in the shaded boxes.  
**Review entire checklist with patient** and **evaluate level of impairment** associated with each symptom. Ask patients to describe how these problems have affected their ability to work, take care of things at home, or get along with other people such as their spouse.  
1. Screen for substance abuse or other comorbidities.  
2. Assess the presence of these symptoms in childhood. (Adults with ADHD need not have been formally diagnosed in childhood, although some significant symptoms should have been present.)  
Use DSM-IV criteria for diagnosis, and start trial of stimulants if indicated.