



The Practical Art of Suicide Assessment: A Guide for Mental Health Professionals and Substance Abuse Counselors

By Shawn Christopher Shea

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The Practical Art of Suicide Assessment: A Guide for Mental Health Professionals and Substance Abuse Counselors By Shawn Christopher Shea

Penned with a compelling elegance and charm, the "Practical Art of Suicide Assessment" is brimming with clinical wisdom, enlightening case illustrations and a vibrant sense of compassion. Viewed as one of the classics in the field of mental health, and acclaimed by both beginning students and experienced clinicians alike, it describes in a step-by-step fashion exactly how to make a sound suicide assessment. Dr. Shea explores the causes of suicidal ideation as well as the nuances of risk actors, protective factors, and the complexities of the clinical formulation of risk. He skillfully integrates all of this information for the reader by using real-life case examples and addressing daunting clinical challenges head-on such as assessing suicide risk with clients coping with borderline personality disorder or psychotic process. In addition Dr. Shea brings to life the highly acclaimed interview strategy for uncovering suicidal ideation, planning, behavior and intent the "Chronological Assessment of Suicide Events (CASE Approach)". Dr. Shea, the originator of the CASE Approach, shows exactly how to creatively and flexibly use its innovative interviewing techniques to match the unique needs of every client. The CASE Approach has been described by the noted suicidologist and past President of the American Association of Suicidology, David Jobes, Ph.D. as follows: "The CASE Approach moves the clinician almost imperceptibly into the secret internal workings of the mind and soul of the patient tormented by suicidal ideation. I believe that the CASE Approach is a remarkable conceptual and clinical contribution to the field of suicidology. It should be taught to any front-line clinician. It has the power to meaningfully save lives." Dr. Shea concludes the book with a no-nonsense approach to documenting a suicide risk assessment that can both help to save a client's life as well as keep the clinician out of court. Respected across the globe, the Practical Art of Suicide Assessment has been translated into languages as diverse as French and Japanese. Mental Health Presses is pleased to re-issue this classic in contemporary suicide prevention (originally published in 2002).

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Editorial Review

Review

"Shea's approach to suicide risk assessment is at once elegant in its simplicity and comprehensive in its scope and depth." (*Preventing Suicide*, 3/1/2004)

"This book is, to date, one of the most helpful and well-written works about the in-depth evaluation of suicidal patients." (*The Journal of Nervous and Mental Disease*, Volume 191, Number 10, October 2003)

". . . remarkably concise and valuable body of information for clinicians at any level in any specialty." --
Counselor: The Magazine for Addiction Professionals

"This outstanding book is informative, interesting, and clinically useful. . . . It will be meaningful and helpful to experienced practitioners, residents, other mental health clinicians, and students." --American Journal of Psychiatry

"In this highly readable, engaging volume, Dr. Shea makes the process of discovering suicidality come alive. Even if you are not directly involved in suicide risk assessment, this is a very worthwhile read. If you are directly involved, this is a must read." --School Psychology Resources Online

". . . a concise, carefully conceptualized, well-written book . . . highly recommended for all psychiatric residents and all other mental health students. Their teachers, as well, will profit greatly by reading it." --
Journal of Clinical Psychiatry

From the Back Cover

Critical Acclaim for The Practical Art of Suicide Assessment

"There is . . . no better guide for learning about and clinically assessing the phenomenology of suicidal states. Penned with a compelling elegance and charm, The Practical Art of Suicide Assessment is brimming with clinical wisdom, enlightening case illustrations, and a vibrant sense of compassion."-David A. Jobes, PhD, past president, American Association of Suicidology

"If I were asked to recommend only one book to equip clinicians to conduct the best possible suicide risk assessments, The Practical Art of Suicide Assessment would be it."-Thomas E. Ellis, PsyD, ABPP, past director, Clinical Division of the American Association of Suicidology

"A concise, carefully conceptualized, well-written book . . . highly recommended for all psychiatric residents and all other mental health students."-Journal of Clinical Psychiatry

"This outstanding book is informative, interesting, and clinically useful."-American Journal of Psychiatry

The Practical Art of Suicide Assessment covers all the critical elements of suicide assessment-from risk

factor analysis to evaluating clients with borderline personality disorders or psychotic process. This highly acclaimed text provides mental health professionals with the tools they need to assess a client's suicide risk and assign appropriate levels of care using the highly acclaimed interview strategy for eliciting suicidal ideation-the Chronological Assessment of Suicide Events (the CASE Approach).

Now available in paperback, the leading book on suicide assessment also contains three important new appendices:

- How to Document a Suicide Assessment
- Safety Contracting Revisited: Pros, Cons, and Documentation
- A Quick Guide to Suicide Prevention Web Sites

About the Author

About the Author: Shawn Christopher Shea, M.D. is an internationally acclaimed workshop leader and educational innovator in the fields of suicide prevention, building resiliency, clinical interviewing, and improving medication adherence having given over 850 presentations worldwide. He is the author of six books and numerous articles including one of the classic texts in the field of suicide prevention, "The Practical Art of Suicide Assessment". His book on creating resiliency in difficult times - "Happiness Is." - was chosen as a Brodart Library Gem, a Bowker's title to Watch, and as the Philosophy Book of the Month by the Radical Academy. His works have been translated into a variety of languages including French, Greek, Japanese, and Chinese. Both editions of his book, "Psychiatric Interviewing: the Art of Understanding", have been chosen by the Medical Library Association for the Brandon/Hill List as one of the most important books in the field of psychiatry. His text "Improving Medication Adherence: How to Talk with Patients About Their Medications" was chosen for Doody's "Core Titles List" of important books in the fields of medicine and nursing. Dr. Shea is the Director of the Training Institute for Suicide Assessment and Clinical Interviewing (TISA) at www.suicideassessment.com, a training and consultation service providing workshops, consultations, and quality assurance design in mental health assessments. He is also in private practice.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Harold Froelich:

This The Practical Art of Suicide Assessment: A Guide for Mental Health Professionals and Substance Abuse Counselors are reliable for you who want to certainly be a successful person, why. The reason of this The Practical Art of Suicide Assessment: A Guide for Mental Health Professionals and Substance Abuse Counselors can be among the great books you must have is definitely giving you more than just simple examining food but feed you actually with information that possibly will shock your before knowledge. This book is actually handy, you can bring it just about everywhere and whenever your conditions in the e-book and printed types. Beside that this The Practical Art of Suicide Assessment: A Guide for Mental Health Professionals and Substance Abuse Counselors forcing you to have an enormous of experience for example rich vocabulary, giving you trial of critical thinking that we understand it useful in your day pastime. So , let's have it appreciate reading.

Karole Standley:

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Emma O'Neill:

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Diane Wilson:

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