



 **The Academy**
Integrating Behavioral Health & Primary Care

NEW RESOURCE!

TOPIC BRIEF: EMERGING BEST PRACTICES FOR ADDRESSING SUICIDALITY IN PRIMARY CARE

Primary care is a critical front line for suicide prevention. This comprehensive guide for primary care teams on addressing suicidality in outpatient settings emphasizes integrating suicide prevention into routine care through structured approaches and best practices. It highlights low-cost, scalable interventions and offers practical tools, workflows, and training resources to help clinical teams detect suicide risk early, intervene collaboratively, and support long-term recovery.



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AHRQ Academy Empowers Primary Care Practices to Prevent Suicide

Suicide is a leading cause of death in the United States, claiming tens of thousands of lives each year. Research shows that up to 80% of people who die by suicide see a primary care provider in the year before their death. The latest topic brief from the AHRQ Integration Academy, *Emerging Best Practices for Addressing Suicidality in Primary Care*, equips primary care teams with practical, scalable strategies to identify and respond to suicide risk with confidence and compassion, even when behavioral health staff are not embedded in the practice. The brief highlights key interventions, including safety planning, crisis response

planning, motivational interviewing, Caring Contacts, and the integration of the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline into routine care.

As Suicide Prevention Month comes to a close, share this resource with your network to help ensure every primary care practice is prepared to recognize suicide risk, respond with compassion, and connect patients to life-saving support.

[Access the Brief](#)

What's New in Integration



The AHRQ Academy FY 2025 Resource Round-Up

Here are all the new and updated products released by the AHRQ Academy this fiscal year.

1

Integrating Behavioral Health and Primary Care Playbook

Integrating Behavioral Health and Primary Care (IBH) Playbook [Updated]

The redesigned IBH Playbook offers updated, actionable guidance for practices working to integrate behavioral health and primary care. With new content on financing, workforce solutions, EHR

2

Medications for Opioid Use Disorder Playbook (Updated)

optimization, and digital health, primary care teams can expand access, reduce burnout, and deliver person-centered, whole-person care. [Access the updated IBH Playbook >>](#)

Medications for Opioid Use Disorder Playbook [Updated]

The updated MOUD Playbook reflects major regulatory changes, expanded telehealth use, and evolving challenges like fentanyl and adolescent overdose. With a Quick Start Guide, enhanced telehealth guidance, and lived-experience vignettes, the Playbook offers providers practical, person-centered strategies for delivering effective OUD care. [Access the updated MOUD Playbook >>](#)

3

Delivering Medications for Opioid Use Disorder in Primary Care: Environmental Scan

Delivering Medications for Opioid Use Disorder in Primary Care: Environmental Scan [New]

This comprehensive environmental scan reviews current trends, policy changes, and emerging models for delivering MOUD in primary care. Drawing on literature and interviews, it highlights innovations such as low-threshold care, telehealth, stigma reduction, and strategies to support

high-risk populations. [Access the MOUD Environmental Scan >>](#)

4

Behavioral Health Integration Ecosystem Directory

Behavioral Health Integration (BHI) Ecosystem Directory [New]

The new BHI Ecosystem Directory is an interactive, searchable tool that features programs and organizations supporting behavioral health integration nationwide. Users can explore resources by type—such as training, facilitation, and funding—and connect directly with programs that align with their needs. [Access the BHI Ecosystem Directory >>](#)

5

Behavioral-Developmental Health Screening and Response for Adolescents (Ages 12–17) in Pediatric Primary Care

Behavioral-Developmental Health Screening and Response for Adolescents (Ages 12–17) in Pediatric Primary Care [New]

This topic brief provides pediatric and family medicine teams with nine core components for effective adolescent behavioral-developmental health screening and response. Grounded in trauma-informed and two-generation approaches, it offers actionable steps and tools to create supportive care systems for teens. [Access the new pediatrics topic brief >>](#)

6

Charting the Future of Integrated Behavioral Health: Perspectives from the Field

Charting the Future of Integrated Behavioral Health: Perspectives from the Field [New]

In this on-demand webinar, national experts Drs. Jürgen Unützer and Virna Little engage in a forward-looking conversation on the future of integrated behavioral health. Gain research and policy insights, as well as lessons learned, for implementing and scaling behavioral health integration across different primary care settings. [Access the Future of Integrated Behavioral Health on-demand webinar >>](#)

7

From Bottlenecks to Breakthroughs: Innovations in Behavioral Health Integration

From Bottlenecks to Breakthroughs: Innovations in Behavioral Health Integration [New]

In this on-demand webinar, Drs. Kari Stephens and Anna Ratzliff of the University of Washington share innovative strategies to strengthen behavioral health integration in primary care. Learn how digital tools and collaborative care models can address workforce challenges, improve quality, and support patients with co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders. [Access the Innovations in Behavioral Health Integration on-demand webinar >>](#)

Other AHRQ and HHS Highlights

[Study Identifies Trends in Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder Medication Misuse](#) - Researchers in AHRQ's Effective Health Care Program, developed in partnership with the Food and Drug Administration, examined the misuse of ADHD prescription stimulant medications in adults to understand the patterns and trends in misuse and its short- and long-term health consequences.

Upcoming Events



[Securing the Future: What Behavioral Health Providers Need to Know About AI and Data Security](#)

- **Date:** Tues, Oct 7, 2025
- **Time:** 1-2pm EST
- **Host:** National Council for Mental Wellbeing



[Practical Tools for Collaborative Care: Brief Behavioral Interventions in Action](#)

- **Date:** Tues, Oct 21, 2025
- **Time:** 1-2pm EST
- **Host:** University of Washington AIMS Center

[Access the Full Calendar](#)

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