

SPC SPAP Update 2018: Clinical Assessment and Treatment (CAT-S8)

CAT Definition: Promote and implement professional practices for assessing and treating those identified as being at risk for suicidal behaviors.

Strategic Directions	Specific Activities	Timeline	Lead Partners
8a. Improve assessment and treatment capacity	i. Disseminate SDMFC ¹ and SDVC ² report on community organizations that support veterans and military-connected families, <i>“The San Diego Regional Veteran and Family Wellness Strategy 2019 Report,”</i> ³ including mental health organizations that provide assessment and treatment, via SPC website.	2019	SPC
	ii. Continue to support work addressing stigma and providing culturally specific assessment and treatment in the military-connected community by participating in veteran and military family groups such as SDMFC’s Health and Wellness Subcommittee and SDVC’s Physical and Emotional Health Action Group, as well as outreach to the VA ⁴ . (see also ICA-S1ai)	2019 ongoing	SPC, Courage 2 Call, SDMFC, Psych Armor
	iii. Continue to support communities or networks who are working with at-risk communities (e.g. Tribal Communities, African American, Faith Leaders, Refugee, and LGBTQ) to address the issue of stigma and build capacity for assessment and treatment.	2019 ongoing	SPC, Community-based Organizations
	iv. Create inventory of currently used suicide screening tools for use in clinical settings. Include pros/cons of each of the tools and who is currently using each tool. (see also HCC-S7bii).	2020	SPC
	v. Enhance capacity of Mobile Medical Units (MMU) to conduct suicide risk assessment and provide or link to treatment, and also offer training in QPR and Mental Health First Aid to MMU staff.	2021	SPC and FHCS ⁵
	vi. Explore feasibility of more frequent “Check Your Mood Day” events (i.e. conducted at community health fairs held throughout the year and share information on ongoing availability of materials.)	2021	SPC, County HHSA Regional Health Promotion

¹ SDMFC refers to San Diego Military Family Collaborative

² SDVC refers to San Diego Veterans Coalition

³ <http://sdmilitaryfamily.org/sdrvfws-report/>

⁴ VA refers to Veterans Administration

⁵ Family Health Centers of San Diego – have three MMUS that offer mental health services as part of their menu

			Teams, CHIP Behavioral Health Work Team (BHWT)
8b. Enhance clinical services	i. Augment clinical staff in PERT teams to include QPR trained or certified staff, as well as additional clinical support such as social workers, family therapists, spiritual care specialists and other mental health professionals ⁶ .	2019-ongoing	PERT Coordinating Council
	ii. Identify and implement mental health trainings, assessments, and services that is person-centered ⁷ (e.g. inclusive and culturally competent) for emergency room/department personnel to enhance and improve the identification and care of patients who are at-risk for suicide.	2020	SPC Medical Providers Roundtable
8c. Strengthen professional development opportunities	i. Build on employee assistance programs to promote “self-care” among mental health workers such as UC San Diego’s HEAR ⁸ Program. ⁹	2020	County HHSA BHS ¹⁰
	ii. Create an inventory of professional development opportunities relating to clinical assessment and treatment that are available online and as needed (e.g. Psych Armor), or via webinars and that are low or no-cost, also any trainings where the trainers can deliver trainings in-house (e.g. SDYS HERE Now Program).	2020	SPC
	iii. Encourage and support medical professional (pharmacists, psychologists) in taking means reductions training such as Counseling on Access to Lethal Means (CALM) and on building capacity of co-providers to consult and communicate with one another regarding risk factors or information on proposed means. (see also MR-S5aiv).	2020	County HHSA

⁶ Note – participants in the planning meeting expressed concerns regarding the balance of law enforcement versus clinical personnel during PERT Team responses, this recommendation relates to this concern.

⁷ Term suggested by community as less clinical sounding

⁸ Healer Education Assessment and Referral Program- <https://medschool.ucsd.edu/som/hear/PublishingImages/HEAR%20Brochure.pdf>

⁹ Note - Assumption here is that providers who practice good self-care will provide better clinical treatment and assessment

¹⁰ San Diego County Behavioral Health Services (County BHS)