SHEEHAN-HOMICIDALITY TRACKING SCALE (S-HTS)

INSTRUCTIONS: PLEASE USE DATA FROM ALL SOURCES AND CONSIDER SEVERITY, FREQUENCY, TIME SPENT AND TIME FRAME IN YOUR RESPONSES. THE RESPONSE "NOT AT ALL" TO ANY QUESTION MEANS "NONE" AND MEANS THAT THE THOUGHT, EXPERIENCE OR BEHAVIOR "DID NOT OCCUR AT ALL". THROUGHOUT THE SCALE, THE WORDS INTENT / INTEND MEAN ANY INTENT GREATER THAN ZERO. SCORE THE MOST SERIOUS EVENT THAT OCCURRED FOR EACH ITEM BELOW.

**In the past** (timeframe):
1. **did you have any accident in which someone else could have been injured or killed?**
   - IF NO, SKIP TO QUESTION 2. IF YES, GO TO QUESTION 1a:
   - how seriously did you plan or intend to hurt someone else or allow someone to be harmed in any accident?
     - IF THE ANSWER TO QUESTION 1a IS 0 (= Not at all), SKIP TO QUESTION 2.
     - IF THE SCORE IS 1 OR HIGHER, GO TO QUESTION 1b:
   - **did you intend to kill someone as a result of any accident?**

**In the past** (timeframe), how seriously did you:
2. **think (even momentarily) that someone else would be better off dead, that someone needed to be killed or wish that someone were dead?**
   - How many times? ____

3. **think (even momentarily) about harming or hurting or injuring someone else – with at least some intent or awareness that they might die as a result – or think about killing someone else?**
   - How many times? ____

4. **have someone else or people in mind that you wanted to kill (i.e. who)?**

5. **have a voice or voices telling you to kill someone or dream about killing someone?**
   - mark either or both: ☐ a voice or voices ☐ a dream

6. **have any method in mind about killing someone (i.e. how)? #**

7. **have any means in mind about killing someone (i.e. with what)? #**

8. **have any place in mind to kill someone (i.e. where)? * #**

9. **have any date/timeframe in mind to kill someone (i.e. when)? * #**

10. **think about any task you would like to complete before trying to kill someone (e.g. taking care of loved ones or writing to others or writing down your plans)?**

11. **intend to act on thoughts of killing someone?**
    - mark either or both: did you intend to act: ☐ at the time ☐ at some time in the future

12. **intend that they would die as a result of your action?**
    - mark either or both: did you intend to kill: ☐ at the time ☐ at some time in the future

13. **feel the need or impulse to kill someone or to plan to kill someone sooner rather than later?**
    - mark either or both: was this: ☐ to kill someone ☐ to plan to kill someone
    - mark either or both: was this: ☐ largely unprompted ☐ provoked

14. **take active steps to prepare to kill someone in which you expected or intended them to die (include anything done or purposely not done that put you closer to killing someone or put them closer to dying)?**

15. **injure someone on purpose without intending to kill them?**
    - How many times? ____

16. **attempt to kill someone?**
    - How many times? ____

* Note: Items 8 & 9 on S-HTS ("a plan for homicide") means not going beyond ideas or talking about a plan for homicide. If actual behaviors occurred, the event should not be coded on item 8 or 9, but as “preparatory behavior” (item 14). Both events can occur separately over the same timeframe. # Note: clinician should ask for details.

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SHEEHAN-HOMICIDALITY TRACKING SCALE (S-HTS) - EVENTS REPORT

17. IF ANSWER 16 IS POSITIVE ASK:

In the past (timeframe), how many times did you attempt to kill someone? ____

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When?</th>
<th>How?</th>
<th>How serious was each attempt?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>dd/MMM/yyyy</td>
<td>Not at all</td>
<td>A little</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Add rows as needed.

Levels of Attempt (halted by self, by another person or event, or not at all)
Level 1: You started the attempt, but then you decided to stop and did not finish the attempt.
Level 2: You started the attempt, but then you were interrupted and did not finish the attempt.
Level 3: You went through the attempt completely as you meant to.

18. IF ANSWER 14 IS POSITIVE ASK:

In the past (timeframe), how many times did you take active steps to prepare to kill someone in which you expected or intended that they would die (include anything done or purposely not done that put you closer to killing someone)? ____ (Include only the times when you stopped before attempting to kill someone.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When?</th>
<th>How?</th>
<th>How serious was each preparation?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>dd/MMM/yyyy</td>
<td>Not at all</td>
<td>A little</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Add rows as needed.

Levels of Preparation
Level 1: You took active steps to prepare to kill someone, but you did not start the attempt.
Level 2: You were about to try to kill someone, but then you stopped yourself just before harming anyone.
Level 3: You were about to try to kill someone, but then someone or something stopped you just before harming anyone.

TIME SPENT PER DAY WITH ANY IMPULSES, THOUGHTS OR ACTIONS RELATING TO KILLING SOMEONE OVER THE PAST (TIMEFRAME):

Usual time spent per day: ____ hours ____ minutes.
Least amount of time spent per day: ____ hours ____ minutes.
Most amount of time spent per day: ____ hours ____ minutes.
SHEEHAN-HOMICIDALITY TRACKING SCALE (S-HTS) - CLINICIAN USE ONLY

Complete this section if the patient does not return for the scheduled follow up visit and is not available to permit completion of pages 1 and 2.

FOR CLINICIAN USE ONLY

19. Missed appointment - reason: subject died in the course of allegedly trying to kill or killing someone else?  
   NO  YES  
   0  100

20. Missed appointment - reason: subject died, but not enough information to code as allegedly trying to kill or killing someone else?  
   NO  YES  
   0  0

21. Missed appointment - reason: subject died from cause(s) not related to allegedly trying to kill or killing someone else?  
   NO  YES  
   0  0

22. Missed appointment - reason: subject alive, but not available because of allegedly trying to kill or killing someone else?  
   NO  YES  
   0  4

23. Missed appointment - reason: subject alive, but not available for known reasons other than allegedly trying to kill or killing someone else?  
   NO  YES  
   0  0

24. Missed appointment - reason: subject alive, but not available, for uncertain reasons, or "lost to follow up"?  
   NO  YES  
   0  0

Total Scale Score  Add scores from Questions 1a (only if 1b is coded YES), + 2 through 13 + [the highest of 14 or any row of 18] + [the highest of 16 or any row of 17] + 19 + 22 [on page 3].

☐ I have reviewed the answers on Pages 1 and 2 with the patient.

_________________________  dd/MMM/yyyy
Clinician Signature

☐ I have reviewed the answers on Pages 1 and 2 with my doctor or clinician.

_________________________  dd/MMM/yyyy
Patient Signature

Homicide Attempt - any behavior(s) perceived by the patient to be potentially lethal that is connected with any level of intent to kill that does not result in a fatality. The behavior may not result in any actual harm to someone and the behavior does not have to be potentially injurious. Only the patient’s perception that it is potentially lethal is necessary. The intent to kill can be inferred by a reasonable group of experts, but should not always be assumed, unless the evidence is compelling. Not all injury of others is homicidal (e.g. sadomasochism). This intent to kill refers to the intent at the time of initiation of the homicide attempt.

The author is grateful to JM Giddens for very valuable advice in the development of the S-HTS and of the S-HTS CMCM versions.