

Suicide Knowledge and Skills Questionnaire
(Smith, Silva, Covington, & Joiner, 2013)

Suicide Knowledge

Please rate your agreement with the following statements using this scale:

Completely Disagree = 1

Disagree = 2

Don't know = 3

Agree = 4

Completely Agree = 5

1. Few people want to kill themselves.

[Answer: False. 1, 2 scored as “**correct =1**” 3-5 scored as “**incorrect = 0**”]

2. Youth ages 10-24 have a significantly greater risk of suicide than individuals aged 65 and older.

[Answer: False. 1, 2 scored as “correct,” 3-5 scored as “incorrect”]

3. The rate of suicide among those with severe mental illness is 6 times the general population.

[Answer: True. 4, 5 scored as “correct,” 1-3 scored as “incorrect”]

4. If a person is serious about suicide, there is little that can be done to prevent it.

[Answer: False. 1, 2 scored as “correct,” 3-5 scored as “incorrect”]

5. If you talk to a client about suicide, you may inadvertently give them permission to seriously consider it.

[Answer: False. 1, 2 scored as “correct,” 3-5 scored as “incorrect”]

6. Depression indicates a suicide risk.

[Answer: True. 4, 5 scored as “correct,” 1-3 scored as “incorrect”]

7. Suicide is always unpredictable.

[Answer: False. 1, 2 scored as “correct,” 3-5 scored as “incorrect”]

8. Suicidal people want to die.

[Answer: False. 1, 2 scored as “correct,” 3-5 scored as “incorrect”]

9. Individuals with Borderline Personality Disorder frequently discuss or gesture suicide but do not really intend to kill themselves; instead they intend to provoke or manipulate others.

[Answer: False. 1, 2 scored as “correct,” 3-5 scored as “incorrect”]

Suicide Skills

Please rate your agreement with the following statements using this scale:

Completely Disagree = 1

Disagree = 2

Don't know = 3

Agree = 4

Completely Agree = 5

1. I have received the TRAINING I need to engage and assist those with suicidal desire and/or intent.
2. I have the SKILLS I need to engage those with suicidal desire and/or intent.
3. I have the SUPPORT/SUPERVISION I need to engage and assist those with suicidal desire and/or intent.
4. I am comfortable asking direct and open questions about suicide.