

**Suicide Prevention Resources to support Joint Commission Accredited organizations implementation of NPSG 15.01.01**

**EP1 – Environmental Risk Assessment**

Tools	Brief Description
<p><a href="#"><u>ASHE Patient Safety and Ligature Identification Checklist</u></a></p> <p><a href="#"><u>ASHE On Demand: A Safe Health Care Environment: Suicide, Self-Harm, and Ligature Risk Assessments</u></a></p> <p><b>ASHE Virtual Rounding Tools</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#"><u>Virtual Rounding Tool: General Acute Care Patient Room</u></a></li> <li>• <a href="#"><u>Virtual Rounding Tool: General Acute Patient Care Bathroom</u></a></li> </ul> <p><b>ASHE Three-step ligature risk guidance for general acute care or emergency departments</b></p>	<p><b><u>Checklist</u></b> can be used to create ligature resistant environments when 1:1 continuous observation is not practical. While it is not meant to be exhaustive, it is intended to help understand the possible patient and staff safety risks, potential ligature points and other Safe Health Care Environment risks.</p> <p><b><u>Suicide, Self-Harm, and Ligature Risk Assessments</u></b> a recording that focuses on the process of risk assessment and mitigation of behavioral health patient safety physical risks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <u>ASHE Three-step ligature risk guidance for general acute care or emergency departments</u> provides a three-step approach (<b>Identify; Observe; Remove</b>) to managing ligature risks and preventing patient self-harm in general acute care or emergency departments. These steps do not apply for psychiatric units.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Recommending Organizations:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The American Society for Health Care Engineering of the American Hospital Association</li> </ol>
<p><b>The Mental Health Environment of Care Checklist (MHEOCC) (05/24/2018, XLS)</b></p>	<p>The US Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) developed the <a href="#"><u>Mental Health Environment of Care Checklist (MHEOCC)</u></a> for VA Hospitals to review inpatient mental health units for environmental hazards. The purpose is to identify and abate environmental hazards that could increase the chance of patient suicide or self-harm. The checklist has been used in all VA mental health units since October 2007. Contact <a href="mailto:Peter.Mills@va.gov"><u>Peter.Mills@va.gov</u></a> for more information.</p>

**The Mental Health Guide**

**Author:** US Department of  
Veteran Affairs VA

**Settings:** Hospitals

**Availability:** Free

[https://www.patientsafety.v  
a.gov/docs/joe/eps\\_mental  
health\\_guide.pdf](https://www.patientsafety.va.gov/docs/joe/eps_mental_health_guide.pdf)

The [Mental Health Guide](#) was developed by a multidisciplinary team comprising of members from the VA National Center for Patient Safety, Nursing, Safety, Environmental Management, and Interior Design to provide guidance and education to the field in relation to determining products suitable for the locked Inpatient Mental Health Environment. The Guide offers recommended products and solutions, is accessed electronically and was designed to be a “living” document updated as

**Patient Safety Standards,  
Materials and Systems  
Guidelines Recommended  
by the New York State Office  
of Mental Health**

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**Author:** NYS-OMH

**Settings:** Inpatient psychiatric  
units

**Availability:** Free

[https://www.omh.ny.gov/omh/web/patient\\_safety\\_standards/guide.pdf](https://www.omh.ny.gov/omh/web/patient_safety_standards/guide.pdf)

The purpose of the New York office of mental health environmental guide is to provide a selection of materials, fixtures, and hardware that the NYS-OMH has reviewed and supports for use within inpatient psychiatric units throughout New York State. While installation of these products will not eliminate all risks, the items selected represent styles and properties of products that help lower patient risk while on an inpatient psychiatric unit. Many of the items in this document represent the current state of the art and it is anticipated that additional or more effective products will continue to be developed. The NYS-OMH intends to periodically update these guidelines to keep current with these changes but notes that hospitals also have an obligation to continue to review products that will assist in this goal. Utilization of any of these products is not mandatory.

This document is not intended to provide guidance for outpatient psychiatric facilities.

**Recommending Organizations:**

1. New York State Office of Mental Health

**Evidence/ Development:**

Review and evaluation by NY-OMH