Foundations of Discipline #3: Perform a Risk Assessment

Short Description:
Assess a patient with respect to risk. The focus of this EPA is on suicidality, though the learner should be able to perform a basic inquiry into other relevant areas of risk as described in the fourth milestone.

Assessment Plan Summary:
- Any psychiatry rotation

Milestones:

Elicit a suicide risk history
1. Elicits details of the events leading up to the ideation and/or attempt
2. Elicits details of the attempt itself if relevant
3. Demonstrate knowledge of risk factors for suicide and risk stratification in multiple patient populations
4. Recognize and appreciate the implications of various diagnoses related to suicidal ideation and attempts
5. Comprehensively document and communicate their risk assessment

Elicit and identify pertinent protective factors
1. Asks about supports and important relationships
2. Asks about patient’s reasons to continue living
3. Assesses future orientation

Determine intent and assess potential lethality after a suicide attempt
1. Elicits details of how the patient behaved after the suicide attempt in an attempt to determine risk
2. Identify and utilize important sources of collateral information
3. Demonstrate understanding of self harm versus suicidal ideation

Assess non-suicidal risk
1. Assesses risk to minors
2. Assesses homicidal ideation
3. Assesses risk of driving
4. Aware of duty to warn
5. Self-care and physical impairment risk

Scope: Any patient in any clinical setting with suicidal ideation or an attempt e.g. ER, outpatient, inpatient