

THE NETWORKING SUICIDE PREVENTION HOTLINES—EVALUATION OF IMMINENT RISK

SUPPORTING STATEMENT

B. STATISTICAL METHODS

B1. RESPONDENT UNIVERSE AND SAMPLING METHODS

There are over 160 crisis centers in the Lifeline network. Phase II of the evaluation is designed to identify and work with seven of those centers. Centers will be selected to represent a cross-section of the Lifeline network. Eligible calls will include those involving imminent risk, as identified by individual counselors using the *Lifeline Policies and Guidelines for Helping Callers at Imminent Risk of Suicide*. The determination of the necessity of surveying seven centers results from our intentions to extend and replicate findings from our earlier data collection involving eight centers.

B2. INFORMATION COLLECTION PROCEDURES

Data for Phase II of the evaluation will be collected following imminent risk calls to the seven participating crisis centers. The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline—**Imminent Risk Form-Revised** was developed to ensure standardized data collection across sites. Crisis counselors at each participating center will be asked to complete the **Imminent Risk Form-Revised** for every imminent risk caller to their centers across a 2-year period. Counselors will be trained by the evaluation staff via telephone to complete the form. Counselors may complete the form in hard copy via fax or enter the information into an online survey and submit. Counselors will have been trained by their centers in the *Lifeline Policies and Guidelines for Helping Callers at Imminent Risk of Suicide* prior to participating in the evaluation. The counselor will not ask the caller questions from the form, but will complete the form after the call based on the information discussed with the caller for clinical purposes.

Table 3 summarizes the information collection procedures for the imminent risk form.

Table 3. Procedures for the Collection of Information

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline—Imminent Risk Form-Revised	
<p>Indicators (Center)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Types of crisis services offered by center ▪ Availability of mobile crisis team ▪ Characteristics of mobile crisis team 	<p>Indicators (Imminent Risk Call)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Demographic information of the imminent risk caller ▪ Line called (Lifeline or center line) ▪ Language spoken ▪ Whether a third party initiated or joined call ▪ If person is repeat caller (if known) ▪ Ratings on the suicidal desire and suicidal intent of person at imminent risk
<p>Data Source(s): One counselor/center</p>	

When Collected: One time prior to first imminent risk call	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Suicidal capability and history of risk behaviors (e.g., prior suicide attempt, violence, substance abuse, sleep problems) ▪ Protective factors/buffers (e.g., social supports, sense of purpose) ▪ Intervention type either undertaken by caller (e.g., take actions on his/her own behalf to immediately reduce imminent risk, get rid of lethal means) or undertaken by counselor with or without caller's consent (e.g., send public safety officials for safety check, send mobile crisis unit) ▪ Interventions involving participating third party (if any) ▪ Barriers to getting help for person at imminent risk ▪ Steps taken to confirm whether emergency contact was made ▪ Outcome of attempts to rescue person at imminent risk ▪ Outcome of attempts to follow up on case
Indicators (Counselor) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Employment status of counselor ▪ Counselor start date ▪ Average number of hours per week ▪ Average number of weekly suicide calls ▪ Level of education ▪ Licensure status ▪ ASIST training status ▪ Other safety planning training status ▪ Sources of protocols used ▪ Follow up responsibilities 	
Data Source(s): Counselors	Data Source(s): Counselors handling imminent risk calls
When Collected: One time following first imminent risk call	When Collected: For each imminent risk call to the crisis hotline after the call has been completed

B3. METHODS TO MAXIMIZE RESPONSE RATES

The **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline—Imminent Risk Form-Revised** will be implemented by all counselors in each of the seven centers as part of their job responsibilities. It is expected that counselors will complete imminent risk forms for 100% of callers who are at imminent risk for suicide. Initial questions about counselor training and experience will be completed only once.

B4. TESTS OF PROCEDURES

The **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline—Imminent Risk Form-Revised** has been reviewed by experts in the fields of suicide prevention and mental health and piloted to determine burden levels.

B5. STATISTICAL CONSULTANTS

The evaluator has full responsibility for the development of the overall statistical design and assumes oversight responsibility for data collection and analysis for the evaluation. Training and monitoring of data collection will be provided by the evaluator. The following individuals are primarily responsible for overseeing data collection and analysis:

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Attachment

Attachment 1: National Suicide Prevention Lifeline—Imminent Risk Form