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COVID-19 STUDENT INTERVIEW FORM

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BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Student Name: _____ Age: _____
School enrolled: _____ Grade: _____
Clinician completing form: _____ Date: _____

INTRODUCTION

- Integrate questions about the pandemic into your assessment
- It may be hard to distinguish between a child with suicide risk and one who is having a normal reaction to the COVID-19 pandemic (Erbacher, 2020)
- Always err on the side of caution. Take all referrals seriously and conduct a suicide risk screening immediately
- Possible COVID-related risk factors may include:
 - social isolation; social conflict in sheltering together; financial concerns; worry about health or vulnerability in self or others; decreased social support; increased anxiety and fear; and disruption of routines and support
- Pay attention to statements indicating HOPELESSNESS
 - It is important to determine if these phrases are due to hopelessness and disconnection or normal reactions to COVID19
 - Ask follow up questions
 - For example, if a student makes statements such as “I’m so tired of this” or “things will never be the same,” query what this means
 - Pay attention to phrases such as “I can’t wait for this to be over....I want my life back.” While a return to brick and mortar schools will happen at some point, it may look quite different and there is a concern over unrealistic expectations setting youth up for extreme disappointment.



COVID-19 QUESTIONS

ASK about the impact of the pandemic

ASK how they are COPING

ASK who they live with and HOW it's going

ASK what activities they engage in while home

ASK how they feel about returning to school

ASK about feelings of hopelessness

ASK about suicidal thoughts and behaviors

ASK how they feel they are doing academically

ASK what supports they have at home or virtually

ASK how social distancing has impacted them

ASK if they feel isolated

THANK YOU!

