



701 13th Street, NW, Suite 950
Washington, DC 20005-3903
Phone: 202/393-6700
Fax: 202/783-6041
E-mail: naphs@naphs.org
Web: www.naphs.org

NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT: Carole Szpak
202/393-6700, ext. 101
comm@naphs.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**COMPACT DISC (CD) TRAINING AVAILABLE ON
“SUICIDE RISK ASSESSMENT: RESPONDING TO THE 2007 JCAHO PATIENT SAFETY GOAL”**

(November 3, 2006).....The National Association of Psychiatric Health Systems (NAPHS) – in collaboration with the American Psychiatric Association (APA) – is offering a two-hour compact disc training on ***Suicide Risk Assessment: Responding to the 2007 JCAHO Patient Safety Goal***.

All organizations surveyed under either the Hospital or Behavioral Healthcare standards of the Joint Commission will be required by January 1, 2007, to have a plan in place to identify patients at risk for suicide. Suicide is the #1 sentinel event reported to the Joint Commission. For staff members working within the inpatient setting, there is heightened need to be able to effectively assess, monitor, and treat suicidal individuals while they are in 24-hour treatment and as they make the transition to home and the community.

The compact disc features experts who have participated in the development of the American Psychiatric Association’s practice guideline on suicide assessment as well as peers who have implemented suicide risk assessment in their facilities.

The CD features **Douglas G. Jacobs, M.D.**, president & CEO, Screening for Mental Health, Inc.; associate clinical professor of psychiatry, Harvard Medical School; and chair, American Psychiatric Association Work Group on *Practice Guideline for the Assessment and Treatment of Patients with Suicidal Behaviors*. Case studies from **The Mayo Clinic, Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic, and Psychiatric Solutions, Inc.** are also part of the discussion. The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations is represented by **Patti Zidlicky, R.N., B.S., M.B.A.** The moderator is NAPHS Director of Clinical and Regulatory Affairs **Kathleen McCann, R.N., Ph.D.**

HOW TO ORDER

The compact disc (CD) is \$225 (or \$150 for NAPHS or APA members). An order form is available at <http://www.naphs.org/Teleconference/suicide.html>, or by calling 202/393-6700, ext. 106.

NAPHS advocates for behavioral health and represents provider systems that are committed to the delivery of responsive, accountable, and clinically effective prevention, treatment, and care for children, adolescents, adults, and older adults with mental and substance use disorders. Its members are behavioral healthcare provider organizations that own or manage more than 600 specialty psychiatric hospitals, general hospital psychiatric and addiction treatment units and behavioral healthcare divisions, residential treatment facilities, youth services organizations, and extensive outpatient networks. The association was founded in 1933.

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