

# Suicidal Thinking and Behavior in Patients with Cancer

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**Presented By:**

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Medical illness is a risk factor for suicide across the life cycle and suicidal ideation/behavior, specifically in the oncology setting, has been a focus of increasing attention. Since many individuals who die by suicide have been evaluated by healthcare professionals in the weeks prior to the suicide, screening for suicidal ideation in patients with cancer is being adopted by more and more psychosocial oncology professionals. This webinar will address the problem of suicide in the oncology setting. Data will be presented with respect to risk factors for suicidal ideation, rates and timing of completed suicide in different cancers, and clinical approaches to the suicidal patient with cancer.

## Learning Objectives:

- Appreciate the frequency of suicidal ideation in patients seen in outpatient cancer clinics.
- Identify specific cancers and timing considerations associated with high rates of completed suicide.
- Describe the strengths and limitations of several suicide screening approaches.

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