



Screening Information

The **Behavioral Health Screening – Primary Care (BHS-PC)** is an internet-based, comprehensive, yet brief, screening tool for use with adolescents and young adults in primary care settings.

The BHS-PC was developed by the Center for Family Intervention Science at Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia to address the need for comprehensive behavioral health screening in primary care. The BHS-PC is designed for an adolescent and young adult patient population, and consists of **psychiatric symptom scales** and **risk behaviors** that covers all the psychosocial areas suggested by best practice guidelines. The items were reviewed by a team of 20 national experts and by several physician focus groups. The BHS-PC contains 75 core items with an additional 44 embedded items that are presented when certain items are positively endorsed. Depending on the number of problems endorsed, it takes about 8 to 14 minutes to complete the BHS-PC. When a patient completes the BHS-PC, the computer will score the answers and generate a report.

The BHS-PC covers the following domains:

- Demographics
- Medical
- School
- Family
- Safety
- Substance Use
- Sexuality
- Nutrition and Eating
- Anxiety
- Depression
- Suicide and Self-Harm
- Psychosis
- Trauma
- Independence

The web-based platform is innovative and solves common problems with administration, interpretation, and data integration. This self-administered screener is computer-scored, generates a report before the clinical encounter, and highlights urgent and non urgent risk factors. Given the automated format, the comprehensive BHS-PC may take less effort than handing out, scoring, interpreting and filing a single domain, paper pencil tool. With further development, the BHS-PC will be customizable to individual practices and be able to integrate into electronic medical records systems.

For this Garrett Lee Smith project in Pennsylvania, participating practices will have access to the BHS-PC via a web-based system. The project team will train practice staff in use of the tool and interpretation of the results. The project team will provide follow up tracking of referred suicidal patients to assist them with accessing services needed.