

Depression is often a chronic condition and requires monitoring. Depression is very common and occurs in all age groups. Because many people will disclose feelings of depression to a health care provider before seeking services with a mental health provider, routine depression screening will be an essential job function for staff of \_\_\_\_\_ Family Planning Program and will be completed upon the client visit, other than a supply visit.

- 1.) Providers will complete the Client Visit Report (CVR) for every client, frequency identified on PHQ-2 form (every two weeks) (not including a supply visit).
- 2.) While screening for mental health, providers will use the Personal History Questionnaire 2 (PHQ-2).
- 3.) Prior to administering the PHQ-2, the provider must explain to client's statement of confidentiality such as: "This appt will remain confidential except for three occasions 1) Someone is hurting you; 2) You feel like hurting someone; or 3) you feel like or are hurting yourself."
- 4.) If the client scores 0-3 on the PHQ-2, the \_\_\_\_\_ will document results in the Ahlers system and continue the appointment as scheduled.
- 5.) When administering the PHQ-9 agencies will refer to the scoring guidance for follow-up and referral.
- 6.) Documentation of administering PHQ-2 and/or PHQ-9, as well as follow-up and referral, must be documented in the client record.
- 7.) Release of information for referral purposes must only include information about suicide risk. Information in regards to other family planning services **must** be kept confidential as per Title X guidelines.
- 8.) If parents of adolescents need to be notified of referral of services, notification should follow established protocols.
- 9.) Because of the link between depression and suicide, a referral to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline follow up program should be offered if the answer to question 9 is positive in anyway. Further exploration should be conducted and if it is found the patient has suicidal thoughts or a plan **and** means to carry it out proper action should be taken such as calling law enforcement for an escort to the hospital or treatment center for an evaluation. Documentation should be entered into the Ahlers system.