

Pierce Suicide Intent Scale (to be completed after suicide attempt)

Identifier

Date

In suicide-risk assessment, results from a suicide intent scale can contribute to clinical observation and add valuable information about a suicidal person's intention. All suicide attempts should be taken very seriously, this measure is not intended to trivialise in any way any suicide attempt. This assessment is intended for use by professionals. If you are concerned about your results in any way, please speak with a qualified health professional.

1 Isolation

2 Timing

3 Precautions against rescue

4 Acting to get help

5 Final acts in anticipation

6 Suicide note

7 Lethality

8 Stated intent

9 Premeditation

10 Reaction to act

11 Predictable outcome

12 Death without medical intervention

Items (1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6) = 'Circumstances' score

Items (7 + 8 + 9 + 10) = 'Self-report' score

Items (11 + 12) = 'Medical risk' score

Total score =

Privacy - please note - this form does not transmit any information about you or your assessment scores. If you wish to keep your results, either print this document or save this file locally to your computer. If you click 'save' before closing, your results will be saved in this document. These results are intended as a guide to your health and are presented for educational purposes only. They are not intended to be a clinical diagnosis. If you are concerned in any way about your health, please consult with a qualified health professional.

Scoring Guide

Low intent	Medium intent	High intent
0 - 3	4 - 10	10 or more

Suicidal intent in the event of self-injury can be difficult to ascertain. Pierce (1977) describes the construction of a scale to measure this intent. Originally researched in 500 cases of self-injury, Pierce's scale proved to be practical and reliable. Results show that the scores derived from it are closely related to those obtained from the Beck Hopelessness Scale (BHS).

Scores are also related to age, sex, social isolation, method of self-injury, previous history of self-injury, physical health and alcohol abuse.

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1 Pierce, D.W. (1977) Suicidal intent in self injury. British Journal of Psychiatry. 130, 377-385.