

Table 10-20: Risk Factors and Considerations in the Evaluation of Suicide Risk

- Significant suicidal ideation*
- Specific intent or plan*; available means
- Hopelessness*
- Previous suicide attempts*
- Depressed mood, mood disorders*
- Family history of suicide or mood disorders*
- Schizophrenia, psychosis (not necessarily command hallucinations)*
- Organic mental syndromes*
- Intoxication with alcohol*, other substances
- Recent major loss, particularly through suicide
- Preoccupation with death
- Fantasies of reunion through death
- Homicidal rage
- Caucasian race*

*These factors have been documented as risk factors for suicide.

Source: Kobayashi J. Psychiatric Issues. In Anderson JR, ed. *Guide to Clinical Care of Women with HIV*. Rockville, Maryland: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, HIV/AIDS Bureau, 2001, p.308.