

The SAD PERSONS scale⁸

Factor	Score
S Male sex	1 point
A Age < 19 or > 45 years	1 point
D Depression or hopelessness	2 points
P Previous suicide attempts or psychiatric care	1 point
E Excessive alcohol or drug use	1 point
R Rational thinking loss (psychotic or organic illness)	2 points
S Single, widowed or divorced	1 point
O Organised or serious attempt	2 points
N No social support	1 point
S Stated future intent (determined to repeat or ambivalent)	2 points

This score is then mapped onto a risk assessment scale as follows:

0-5: May be safe to discharge (depending upon circumstances)

6-8: Probably requires psychiatric consultation

>8: Probably requires hospital admission