

# TeachME Professional Development

## Screening for Behavioral Health Issues in School Settings

**1. While screening is intended to be used in schools to identify problems early so they don't escalate, the result is all too often diagnostically labeling a child rather than pursuing system deficiencies that are causing the problem in the first place.**

- A. True
  - B. False
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### The Debate about Screening-The Pros and Cons

**2. Key questions that policy makers must ask themselves when evaluating the use of first-level universal screening in school settings for psychological and mental health problems include:**

- A. Is such monitoring an appropriate role for schools to play?
  - B. If so, what procedures are appropriate and who should do the screening?
  - C. If so, how will schools avoid doing more harm than good in the process?
  - D. All of the above
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**3. At times teachers or peers may be expected to monitor students who have been identified through screening practices as being at-risk to themselves or others, but this may distract the teacher and peers from educational goals, and they may be poorly equipped to monitor behavioral health problems.**

- A. True
  - B. False
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### Being Alert to Indicators of Psychosocial and Mental Health Problems

**4. Behaviors of school-aged children that are of concern and may require further screening/assessment include each of the following EXCEPT:**

- A. Emotions seem excessive, and students display little affect and/or may demonstrate rapid shifts in emotional states
- B. Behaviors occur frequently and in a variety of situations and appear rather serious when compared with behavior of other students the same age

- C. Students seem overly interested in others, are preoccupied with having a large group of friends, and are unresponsive to social clues and norms
  - D. Students may have difficulty concentrating and may express very strange thoughts and ideas
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## **Follow-Through Steps After Assessing Suicidal Risk-Checklist**

**5. As part of suicide assessment and follow-up protocol, professionals are advised not to press students to talk about the matter, as this may cause them to feel demeaned or devalued.**

- A. True
  - B. False
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## **Being Alert to Substance Abuse Indicators**

**6. Although many of the symptoms of substance abuse mirror common characteristics of young people, especially in adolescence, a prevailing pattern of unusual and excessive behaviors and recent dramatic changes in behavior and mood are indicators of potential substance abuse.**

- A. True
  - B. False
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**7. In addition to decreased motivation for many activities, apathy, and decreased motor skill coordination, indicators of cannabinoid abuse include:**

- A. Decreased appetite with chronic use
  - B. Extreme mood swings
  - C. Erratic sleep problems
  - D. Decreased pulse rate
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**8. When assessing a student after a crisis has occurred, screening questions should include an evaluation of the student's feelings of anger, fear, sadness, and:**

- A. Hopelessness
  - B. Guilt
  - C. Confusion
  - D. Overload
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**9. Which of the following is NOT a correct statement about the use of general screening tools to assess student behavioral health problems and service needs?**

- A. It is often feasible to directly discuss matters with a student and arrive at a reasonable picture of problems and next steps
  - B. Parent questionnaires, extensive student self-reports, and behavior rating instruments can be useful to provide data
  - C. When students are uncertain or reluctant to share their concerns or a staff member is somewhat inexperienced, semi-structured instruments are not recommended, as they tend to be too invasive
  - D. During the screening process, checklists are often helpful to give a functional picture of the student's issues and needs
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## **Initial Counseling Interviewing**

**10. During an initial counseling interview, appropriate introductory questions include, "How would you describe your current situation?", "What problems are you experiencing?" and "What are your main concerns?"**

- A. True
  - B. False
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## **Table of Screening Tools and Rating Scales**

**11. Experts agree that appropriate use/interpretation of screening tools and rating scales is the best way to determine a diagnosis for behavioral health issues.**

- A. True
  - B. False
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**12. Many school systems are adopting three-tiered models of prevention to support an increasingly diverse student population, with a central feature being:**

- A. Data that are monitored to determine responsiveness
  - B. A contract or verbal agreement with the student
  - C. Interventions for social impairment that results from emotional distress
  - D. Multiphasic screening to match students with interventions
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