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## Depression Screening Tool

Depression is one of the most common and disabling psychiatric disorders. This serious mental health issue was the fourth highest cause of disability and death worldwide in 1990, and is expected to move into second place by 2020. Left untreated, depression can be associated with medical co-morbidity, the loss of job or interpersonal relationships and/or suicide. But depression is highly treatable.

Many people with depression may not be aware of it or may be reluctant to see a mental health professional. As a result, they present with a wide range of emotional and physical complaints to primary care providers instead. You can play a crucial role in helping to diagnose and furnish options for treatment.

If you have a patient you suspect may be depressed, [this guide can help](#). A brief screening tool – consisting of only two questions – has been designed *to help primary care providers identify whether further assessment is needed*. The guide also contains Risk Factors for Clinical Depression, DSM 5 Criteria for Depression, Suicide Risk Assessment, and Treatment Options.

For additional support, please call [Beacon Health Strategies](#), our behavioral health partner, at 855-834-5655, or [learn more here](#) about additional treatment options.