



Behavioral Emergency

- Severe deviation from the established norm.
- WHO DEFINES NORMAL???
- What is **N****O****r****M****a****L**?



Assessment of Behavioral Emergency Patients (2 of 4)

- **Focused history and physical exam**
 - **Obtain the patient's history:**
 - Listen.
 - Spend time.
 - Be assuring.
 - Do not threaten. Do not Judge!
 - Do not fear silence. But be cautious.
 - Place yourself at the patient's level.
 - Keep a safe and proper distance.
 - Never lie to the patient.



Suicide Risk Factors

- Previous attempts
- Depression
- Age
 - 15–24 or over 40
- Alcohol or drug abuse
- Divorced or widowed
- Giving away belongings
- Living alone or in isolation
- Presence of psychosis with depression
- Homosexuality
 - HIV status
- Major separation trauma
- Major physical stresses
- Loss of independence
- Lack of goals and plan for the future
- Suicide of same-sexed parent
- Expression of a plan for suicide
- Possession of the mechanism for suicide