Scoring Guide for the C-SSRS

**Ideation Severity Subscale:**

- Questions 1-5 reflect five types of ideation of increasing severity. Score of yes=1, no=0.
- Questions 1 and 2 are screening questions; if the answers to both are negative, skip to the “Suicidal Behavior” section.
- For every question, “If yes, please describe” is a place to optionally write relevant free text.
- On the Lifetime/Recent version, “Lifetime” events will include any “Recent” events; the “Lifetime” box will always be checked if the “Recent” box is checked.

**Suggested Guidance for Next Steps:**

- A positive answer to item 4 (active suicidal ideation with some intent to act) or 5 (active suicidal ideation with specific plan and intent) indicates that the individual has some intent to act on suicidal thoughts and will need further evaluation or clinical management depending on context/setting.
- Endorsement of Ideation Severity items 1, 2 or 3 could also indicate a need for further evaluation or clinical management depending on population or context.

**Intensity of the Most Severe Ideation** *(Referring only to the most severe ideation endorsed above - for example, if subject endorses ideation types 1 and 4, score this entire section based on ideation type 4.)*

- Add the numbers endorsed on the 5 intensity items (Frequency, Duration, Controllability, Deterrents, Reasons for Ideation).
- The sum ranges from 2 to 25, with a higher number indicating more intense ideation.

**Suicidal Behavior Subscale:**

- Different types of suicidal behavior are scored (yes=1, no=0) and identify the occurrence of actual, interrupted, or aborted attempts; preparatory behaviors; and suicide [on the Since Last Visit version].
- The Suicidal Behavior Subscale allows for categorical identification of behavior – for example, the presence of a past attempt is the leading risk factor for suicide.
- **Number of suicidal behaviors** – the total number of each type of suicidal behavior that occurred during the given time period shows the density of suicidal behavior (more behaviors represent a higher degree of risk – for example, multiple attempters are more at risk than single attempters).
- **Keep each type of behavior separate** - DO NOT add different types together; there is no sum score in this section.
- If there is a “yes” answer to any of the four behaviors (preparatory act, aborted attempt, interrupted attempt, actual attempt) the last question in this section, Suicidal Behavior, should also be scored with a “yes”.

**Behavior Lethality** *(For suicide attempts or non-suicidal self-injurious behavior)*

- Give actual lethality/medical damage rating of 0 to 5 for each behavior.
- If there is no medical damage or actual lethality = 0, then give the item a potential lethality a score of 0-2; potential lethality is only scored if there is no actual lethality.