

Consider Referring Patient With A Major Depressive Episode to Specialty Care If:

- The presence of severe suicidal ideation is determined
 - Plan to commit suicide
 - Means have been secured
 - Several risk factors (terminal illness, chronic illness, chronic pain, presence of substance or alcohol use disorder, presence of hopelessness, history of suicide attempt, patient reporting few or no reasons to live)
 - Few protective factors (patient reports several reasons to live, patient engaged in therapy)
- Presence of homicidal ideation
- Presence of psychotic symptoms
- Current or history of mania/hypomania.
- Presence of severe axis-I or axis-II/cluster B co-morbidity
- History of treatment failure to more than two antidepressants in the current episode
- Patient preference