

A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide, consisting of white lines and circles on a blue gradient background, resembling a circuit board or a stylized tree structure.

# CAMS , AN OVERVIEW.

# WHAT IS IT?

- The Collaborative Assessment and Management of Suicidality (CAMS) is a flexible therapeutic framework in which patient and provider work together to assess the patient's suicidal risk and use that information to plan and manage suicide-specific, "driver-oriented" treatment. It is a philosophy of clinical care that can be used for a wide range of suicidal patients across outpatient and inpatient treatment settings and in the context of various psychotherapies and treatment modalities.
- The framework fundamentally involves a participant's engagement and cooperation in assessing and managing suicidal thoughts and behaviours and the therapist's understanding of the patient's suicidal thoughts, feelings, and behaviours. A multi-purpose clinical tool, called the Suicide Status Form (SSF), guides the patient's assessment and treatment and is developed collaboratively between the patient and the practitioner throughout the course of therapy. The duration of the CAMS treatment varies, depending on the patient's condition.



# PHILOSOPHY AND FEATURES

- Empathy for the suicidal state
- Collaboration. The person is the “co-author”
- Honesty
- Focused on Suicide – its about reducing or eliminating suicide as a coping strategy
- Keeps people out of hospital
- Flexible in its therapeutic approach

# PROS AND CONS

- Establishes rapport.
- Patient/person–Centred.
- Covers medico–legal/clinical documentation requirement.
- Tracks progress with the person.
- Not suited to everyone.
- Not as useful in crisis situations

# THE FORMS

- The Suicide Status Form
- The SSF functions as a clinical roadmap within CAMS, guiding all assessments, treatment planning, tracking of ongoing risk, and, ultimately, clinical outcomes.

SECOND EDITION

The CAMS Framework

# MANAGING SUICIDAL RISK

*A Collaborative Approach*

David A. Jobes

FOREWORD BY Marsha M. Linehan