PHQ-9 Follow-up Questions for Patients Scoring 1-3 on Question #9

The final assessment of whether immediate action is needed is up to licensed professionals within their scope of practice.

1: Do you feel like life isn't worth living?
   - Yes = Go to Follow-up Question #2
   - No  = Write down what patient was thinking when they answered Question #9.
     ❖ A warm handoff would be useful but no urgent need for immediate assessment if behavioral health staff not available for warm handoff

2: Do you have thoughts about harming yourself?
   - Yes = Go to Follow-up Question #3
   - No  = Write patient's comments
     ❖ Warm handoff still best but no need for immediate behavioral health staff assessment if not available

3: Do you have plans for how you would harm yourself?
   - Yes = Go to Follow-up Questions 4 and 5

4: Do you plan to act on this soon?

5: Do you have the means to harm yourself?
   - Yes on items 3, 4, or 5 should be reported to behavioral health staff before patient leaves the clinic so a decision can be made regarding actions to take.