



# Suicide Prevention and Screening for Substance Misuse in the Elderly

October 17, 2024 • 1–2 p.m. CT

[www.LeadinAgeIowa.org/SuicidePrevention](http://www.LeadinAgeIowa.org/SuicidePrevention)

Suicide, ideation, and self-harm among older adults are highly prevalent yet minimally researched and uncomfortably discussed topics in the United States. Older adults often exhibit many primary risk factors, including mental illness (especially depression and grief/loss), medical illness, impaired coping skills, social disconnectedness, and functional impairment. Additionally, substance use disorders are a significant issue within this population. As the number of elderly individuals grows, we can expect an increase in substance-related problems and depression leading to suicidal thoughts or attempts. Life transitions, such as changes in housing for oneself or a spouse, exacerbate these risks, making the transition to assisted living or long-term care a crucial time for screening and intervention.

It is important for clinicians to be knowledgeable about the clinical presentation, screening methods, and risk assessment as the goal is for timely interventions and referral to appropriate care so life can be preserved. This webinar will discuss the prevalence of suicidality in senior living, the signs and behaviors indicating elevated risk for suicide and substance abuse, screening tools, and intervention strategies during this pivotal time.

- Define the scope of the problem related to suicide and substance abuse in seniors.
- Identify risk factors, warning signs, and common substance use disorders.
- Discuss the process of screening, brief interventions, and referral to treatment for elders with substance use disorders and suicidal ideation.
- Describe important actions in suicide prevention during the transition to residential communities.

## Event Schedule

October 17, 2024 | 1–2 p.m. CT

## Who Should Attend

Administrators, Nurses, Department Heads, Social Workers, Activity Professionals, Direct Care Professionals, and other team members. Appropriate for all provider types including nursing home, assisted living, adult day services, and independent living.

## Faculty

**Kathleen Weissberg, OTD, OTR/L, Education Director. Select Rehabilitation**



Kathleen Weissberg, in her more than 25 years of practice, has worked in long term care as a researcher/educator and has established various programs in nursing facilities including palliative care and end of life care, incontinence management, falls management and dementia care and staging. She currently provides continuing education support to 6,000 therapists nationwide as director of education for Select Rehabilitation. She has lectured nationally, at the state level, and authored publication on the topics such as patient satisfaction outcomes in long term care, restraint reduction and fall prevention, driving and the elderly, dementia management, palliative care, and hospital readmissions. She has presented at previous LeadingAge conferences for Georgia, South Carolina, Michigan, New York, and has authored articles for publication for LeadingAge Florida and Texas.

## Continuing Education Information

**Social Services** – The event is designed to provide 1.0 contact hour, aligning with the criteria set by the Iowa Board of Examiners for Social Workers for participants who attend the entire event. Please note that partial credit will not be granted; full attendance is required to receive contact hours or a certificate of attendance. LAI will verify electronic virtual sign-in and sign-out times before issuing certificates.

**Activity Professionals** – This session has been approved by the Iowa Department of Inspections & Appeals for 1.0 contact hour for Certified Activity Professionals who attend this session in its entirety. Partial credit for this session will not be granted. To receive contact hours or a certificate of attendance, you must attend the entire session.

LAI Assisted Living Manager Recertification – Participants who attend the entire event will be eligible for 1.0 contact hour. Please note that partial credit will not be granted; full attendance is required to receive contact hours or a certificate of attendance. LAI will verify electronic virtual sign-in and sign-out times before issuing certificates.

Iowa Board of Nursing Provider #67 – LeadingAge Iowa is an approved provider of continuing education for nurses, accredited by the Iowa Board of Nursing (Provider No. 67). Participants who attend the event in its entirety will be eligible for 1.0 contact hour. Please note that partial credit will not be granted; you must attend the entire event to receive contact hours or a certificate of attendance. LAI will verify electronic virtual sign-in and sign-out times before issuing certificates. Evaluations for this event can be submitted directly to the Iowa Board of Nursing.

Nursing Home Administrators – The event is designed to provide 1.0 contact hour, aligning with the criteria set by the Iowa Board of Examiners for Nursing Home Administrators for participants who attend the entire event. Please note that partial credit will not be granted; full attendance is required to receive contact hours or a certificate of attendance. LAI will verify electronic virtual sign-in and sign-out times before issuing certificates.

For other long-term support and service provider professional not listed above: Most licensure boards, credentialing agencies and professional organizations have processes that allow individuals to earn a certain number of CEUs for non-preapproved programs and/or to accommodate self-submission for approval of continuing education hours after the event takes place with proper documentation from the program sponsors. It is up to the discretion of the licensee to choose relevant sessions and self-report. Certificates of attendance will be provided for this purpose.

### **Registration & Other Information**

Register at [www.LeadinAgeIowa.org/SuicidePrevention](http://www.LeadinAgeIowa.org/SuicidePrevention).

LeadingAge Iowa Member	\$50
Prospective Member	\$100

### **What's Included**

Registration fee includes digital handouts, one connection to the live webinar, and instructions for receiving CE credit/attendance certificate for one person. A recording of this webinar will be made available upon request for 2 weeks following the webinar (no CE credit/attendance certificates will be issued for viewing the recording).

### **Cancellation/Refund Policy**

There will be no refunds approved for this webinar. Registered attendees who miss the live webinar can request the recording within 2 weeks following the webinar.

Go to [www.LeadinAgeIowa.org/VPCodeofConduct](http://www.LeadinAgeIowa.org/VPCodeofConduct) to view the LAI Virtual Programs Code of Conduct.

*LeadingAge Iowa, 11001 Aurora Ave, Urbandale, IA 50322*  
515-440-4630 or [www.LeadinAgeIowa.org](http://www.LeadinAgeIowa.org)