Scenario

Emily is a 14 year old girl brought to GP surgery by mother on Thursday evening.

Mother noted cuts on her arms from the previous night. Emily has become increasingly irritable and argumentative over the past 6 months and last night said she no longer wanted to live. Mother is frantic and seems angry and critical of Emily. She wants Emily admitted to a psychiatric ward. Emily is silent and difficult to engage.











Case scenario – issues for consideration

What are your worries with regards to Emily?

How would you know if she had a mental health disorder e.g. clinical depression or if the problems are related to current stresses (e.g. family, friends, school)

Should Emily be seen alone? Why?

How will you assess the risk and decide if she should be seen urgently by CAMHS emergency team tonight or wait for discussion with Access tomorrow?

Are there any safeguarding issues?

What is your plan?

If you decide to send Emily home, what advice would you give mum and Emily?







