

TAP PROVIDER AND PATIENT INFORMATION CARD

The following pages include two versions of the TAP Provider and Patient Information Card.

Note: The following cards are formatted to fit our toolkit. To download a 6"x4" two-sided printable version that **does not require assembly**, visit armoryproject.org/program#resources

INSTRUCTIONS:

Print 1 page (US Letter 8.5x11"), **single-sided only**.

Fold in half along the dashed line.

Use tape or glue to adhere together.

70% OF VETERAN SUICIDE DEATHS INVOLVED A FIREARM

SECURE FIREARM STORAGE REDUCES THE RISK OF FIREARM INJURY OR DEATH.

- ▶ Creating **time** and **distance** between a person in crisis and a firearm helps keep them safe.
- ▶ Firearm injuries in the home can be prevented by making sure firearms are secured when not in use, with ammunition stored in a separate location.
- ▶ There are many storage options that still allow for rapid access.

CONSIDER TEMPORARY OUT-OF-HOME FIREARM STORAGE DURING...

- ▶ Personal crisis
- ▶ Relationship stress or divorce
- ▶ Substance misuse or legal challenges
- ▶ Depression or thoughts/talk of harming oneself or others



**TO LEARN MORE & FIND LOCATIONS,
VISIT ARMORYPROJECT.ORG**

The Armory Project is a coalition of firearm retailers who have agreed to provide free or low cost firearm storage for their communities.



STORAGE OPTIONS

- ▶ **Clean and Hold:** Your retailer may hold your firearms for a set period of time and may offer basic cleaning or other services for a small fee.
- ▶ **Temporary Storage:** Your retailer may agree to temporarily store your firearm for free or a small cost.

VETERANS ARE SIGNIFICANTLY MORE LIKELY TO USE FIREARMS AS A MEANS OF SUICIDE THAN THE GENERAL POPULATION

HOW TO TALK TO PATIENTS ABOUT SECURE FIREARM STORAGE

- ▶ Approach the conversation with an understanding of Veterans' experiences and perspectives about firearms.
- ▶ Reassure the Veteran that no one is trying to take their firearm away.
- ▶ Emphasize how secure firearm storage can help prevent accidents and suicides.

HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS' ROLE IN FIREARM SUICIDE PREVENTION

- ▶ Identify and engage Veterans at risk for suicide.
- ▶ Educate and encourage patients to practice secure firearm storage.
- ▶ Half of Veterans who die by suicide are seen in primary care settings in the month prior to death.



**TO LEARN MORE & FIND LOCATIONS,
VISIT ARMORYPROJECT.ORG**

TAP partners have received suicide prevention training and are committed to preventing firearm suicide.

retailers who have agreed to provide free or low cost firearm storage for their communities.

The Armory Project is a coalition of firearm



FIREARM STORAGE OPTIONS

- ▶ **Secure in-home storage:** storing firearms secured, with ammunition stored in a separate location.
- ▶ **Temporary out-of-home storage:** best practice for high-risk patients.
- ▶ Creating time and space between a person and lethal means (firearms) in a time of crisis is recommended.