

Case Study

Mr. S., a 23 year old male, was hospitalized for physically haring his younger sister, and he threatened to kill his girlfriend, who broke off their relationship 3 days before he was hospitalized. He complained about women and being abandoned by his mother and every girl he ever dated. He stated, "One of these days, I will kill my ex-girl-friend." He believes that by killing his ex-girlfriend, it will relieve him of his misery. The nurse question Mr. S. about his access to guns and ammunition. His response was, "I will make the purchase after discharge." After a short hospital stay, Mr. S. was discharged because of limited insurance coverage.

What are two issues in this situation?

What is the nurse's responsibility related to these issues?

What are the implications for the nurse?

What are possible choices the psychiatrist may choose after being made aware of this threat?