Suicide Risk Screener

What is the MDQ?
The Mood Disorder Questionnaire (MDQ) is a brief, self-report screening instrument that can be used to identify patients in primary care settings most likely to have bipolar disorder.

Link(s) to Screener(s)
You can access the MDQ here MECH (ohsu.edu)

How to use it / Who should administer
The questionnaire takes less than 5 minutes to complete. Patients check the yes or no boxes in response to the questions. The last question pertains to the patient’s level of functional impairment. The physician, nurse, or medical staff assistant then scores the completed questionnaire.

How to interpret / Next steps
Further medical assessment for bipolar disorder is warranted if:

Patient answers yes to 7 or more of the questions on the screener, AND
Answers yes to question 2, AND
Answers “moderate problem” or “serious problem” to question 3

If you identify that someone has bipolar disorder through further clinical interview, this is a helpful decision-making tool for treatment options.

Source