Over the last 2 weeks, how often have you been bothered by any of the following problems?

1. During the past month, have you often been bothered by feeling down, depressed, or hopeless?  
2. During the past month, have you often been bothered by little interest or pleasure in doing things?

If the response to both questions is "no", the screen is negative. If the response is "yes" to either question, consider administering the PHQ-9 questionnaire or asking the patient more questions about possible depression.

Whooley et al. (1997) compared the 2-question screen to the Quick Diagnostic Interview Schedule (QDIS-III) and reported a sensitivity and specificity of 96% and 57% respectively.

Whooley MA, Avins AL, Miranda J, Browner WS. Case finding instruments for depression. Two questions are as good as many. *Gen Intern Med.* 1997;12:439-45. From the Primary Care Evaluation of Mental Disorders Patient Health Questionnaire (PRIME-MD PHQ). The PHQ was developed by Drs. Robert L. Spitzer, Janet B.W. Williams, Kurt Kroenke and colleagues. For research information, contact Dr. Spitzer at rls8@columbia.edu. PRIME-MD® is a trademark of Pfizer Inc. Copyright 1999 Pfizer Inc. All rights reserved. Reproduced with permission.