

Planning

The nursing process, known by the acronym ADPIE (assessment, diagnosis, planning, implementation and evaluation), is a five-step systematic approach to patient care using the fundamental principles of critical thinking, individualized patient approaches to treatment, goal-oriented tasks, and evidence-based practice recommendations. The planning step of the nursing process includes developing an individualized care plan tailored to the patient, setting short-and-long-term goals, and identifying expected outcomes using the SMART system, an acronym used to set realistic and specific goals, which stands for specific, measurable, attainable, realistic and time-oriented.



PLAY PICMONIC

Nursing Care Plan

Tailored to Patient

[Tailor-fitting Patient](#)

Based on the nursing assessment and diagnosis, the next step in the nursing process is to create a nursing care plan. Care plans are a map for personalized care tailored to a patient's unique needs. The patient's overall health condition and other health issues or comorbidities play a role in the creation of a care plan. Care plans promote communication, documentation, and continuity of care.

Short-and-Long-Term Goals

[Short and Long Goals](#)

Constructing a care plan is centered around obtaining patient-specific goals to ensure a positive outcome. The nurse sets SMART goals (specific, measurable, attainable, realistic and time-oriented) for this plan, which are both short- and long-term goals. Examples of a short-term goal would include walking outside for 20 minutes three times per day; maintaining adequate nutrition for two weeks by eating 5 small, frequent meals. Long-term goals would include managing high blood pressure by keeping it at 120/80 through adequate medication and lifestyle for 6 months.

SMART GOALS

Specific

[Spicy-fist](#)

The "S" in SMART stands for "specific." When creating a goal, it is important that it be specific to the individual patient and tailored to their needs, including their comorbidities, overall health status, and day-to-day life. The goal needs to be very clear and show who, what, when, where and why.

Measurable

[Ruler](#)

The "M" in SMART stands for "measurable," meaning that you can actually measure and evaluate the progress of that patient's goal in a concrete way.

Attainable

[Attainable Goals on Stairs](#)

The "A" in SMART stands for "attainable." This means there are actions that can be taken to reach the goal in a way that is patient-specific.

Realistic

Realistic-reel

The "R" in SMART stands for "realistic." This means that achieving the goal is realistic to the patient's lifestyle and ability, and the goal is realistic to achieve.

Time-Oriented

Timer

The "T" in SMART stands for "time-oriented." This means that there is a specific end time frame or date which the goal is going to be evaluated.