

THE NURSING PROCESS: ADPIE



ADPIE is an acronym used to remember the five steps of the nursing process which inform clinical decision-making for each client.



1 Assessment:

Collect objective and subjective data regarding client's health status to help inform diagnosis. Identify needs and set priorities for care.

Example:

- When administering HTN medications → assess BP
- When administering insulin → assess glucose levels
- For client on an anticoagulant → check PT/INR
- For client on digoxin → check digoxin lab values
- Client with suspected spinal cord injury → complete neurological assessment

Example: Assessment question prior to medication administration:

For this client, in this setting, is it reasonably safe for them to receive this medication?
Answer will depend on assessment.

2 Diagnosis:

Using information gathered during assessment, consider the client's condition and health needs. Formulate nursing diagnoses.

Example: After assessing the client's distended bladder, the nurse notes a nursing diagnosis for urinary retention.

3 Planning:

Develop a plan of care for the client to meet desired goals. The client should be involved in the development of their goals, and the care plan should take the client's preferences and circumstances into account.

Example: Nurse understands the risk of adrenal gland suppression with corticosteroids → reviews tapering plan with client to avoid side effects

4 Implementation:

Carry out intervention outlined by the plan of care.

Example: Nurse has determined medication is appropriate for client based on assessment, diagnosis, and care plan → gives medication as ordered

5 Evaluation (final stage):

Assess the client's progress and determine whether plan of care was effective. The initial care plan may need to be revised if goal was not achieved.

Example:

- Client presents with pain → assess pain before and after medication to see if goal was achieved
- Client on diuretic → review urinary output to evaluate if medication was effective
- Client is on antibiotics for an infection → review CBC results for signs of improvement
- Client is given nitroglycerin for chest pain → assess whether chest pain has resolved after administration

Continuous reassessment and evaluation of client status may be required depending upon client's condition.

NOTES

