

Appendix B

Writing SMART Objectives

In order to be most effective, objectives should be clear and leave no room for interpretation. S-M-A-R-T is a helpful acronym for developing objectives that are *specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound*.

An example of an S-M-A-R-T objective for TB is:

In County X, increase the percentage of adult patients with non-rifampin -resistant TB who complete treatment in less than 12 months (as measured by cohort review) from 80% to 90% (the national goal) by 2014.

The objective is *specific* because it identifies a defined event: adult TB patients will complete treatment in less than 12 months. The objective is *measurable* because it specifies a baseline value and the quantity of change the intervention is designed to achieve: from 80% to 90%. As in the example, it is worthwhile to note whether there is an existing data source for the objective. The objective is *achievable* because it is realistic given the 10-year time frame. The objective is also *relevant* because it relates to the elimination of exposure to non-resistant TB. Finally, the objective is *time-bound* because it provides a specified time frame by which the objective will be achieved (from 2004 to 2006).

A Tool to help write SMART objective

Breakdown	VERB	METRIC	POPULATION	OBJECT	BASELINE MEASURE	GOAL MEASURE	TIMEFRAME
	Increase	Percent	Adult patients with non-resistant TB	Completion of therapy (w/in 12 mos)	80%	90%	By 2006

Objective
Increase percentage of adult patients with non-resistant TB who completed therapy (within 12 mos.) from 80% to 90% by 2006.