

SOAP Progress Notes Definition

SOAP PROGRESS NOTES

SOAP NOTES

A. Definition of SOAP

S - SUBJECTIVE DATA

Includes information from the client, such as the client's description of pain or the acknowledgment of fear. Including subjective input from the client aids in his participation in the plan of care.

O - OBJECTIVE DATA

Objective data is data that can be measured. Physical examinations, laboratory data, observations, and results of x-ray examinations are sources of objective information.

A - ASSESSMENT

The assessment is an interpretation of the client's condition or level of progress. The conclusions made in the assessment are more than a restatement of the original problem. The assessment determines whether the problem has been resolved or if further care is required.

P - PLAN

Plans may include specific orders designed to manage the client's problem, collection of additional data about the problem, individual or family education, and goals of care. The plan in each SOAP note is compared with the plan in previous notes. A decision is made to revise, modify, or continue previously proposed interventions.

I - INTERVENTION

This section of the SOAP note is optional and can be used as a continuation of the original SOAP note. It may include the client's response to the intervention.

E - EVALUATION

This section is commonly used to conclude the SOAP note. It includes a brief summary of the plan. Evaluates if the plan was effective or needs revision. If the plan needs to be revised, it will be stated in the evaluation section and a new SOAP note will then be written.

Sample SOAP Note:

Isolation - lives alone.

- S -** "I just don't have any friends or family close by to help take care of me. I'm afraid I may make a mistake when I give myself a shot."
- O -** Client is learning to self administer insulin injections. Has no resources at home to supervise injections. Client has the psychomotor skills needed to perform injections correctly. Has been able to correctly administer injection for the last 2 days.
- A -** Client fearful of returning home without available resources to supervise injections.
- P -** A plan of action to call Home Health to refer client. Continue practice sessions with injections and offer encouragement appropriately. Assist client in planning for acquisition of necessary syringes and supplies.