

Frontier Nursing University
Samples of SOAP Notes

Template for Episodic Visit

S: Chief complaint (CC): It is often helpful to use the patient's report in quotation marks here (i.e., "I am having my period twice a month").

History of Present Illness (HPI): Include onset, duration, progression, timing, amount, things that aggravate, things that relieve, treatments already tried, previous history of similar symptoms, etc. Also would include pertinent negatives.

Past Medical History (PMH): Include any pertaining to the chief complaint or that would affect treatment plan.

Current Medications: Include all and don't forget to ask about alternative remedies.

Allergies

Psychosocial and Family History: Include any that pertains to the chief complaint or that would affect treatment plan.

Social History/Habits: Include use of tobacco, drugs and alcohol as well as social history that may affect the treatment plan.

O: Vital signs if they are not listed elsewhere on this page.

General: Is the patient anxious, nervous, or in pain? Does she look older than stated age? Can use NAD (no apparent distress).

Physical Exam: Include only those systems pertaining to the chief complaint. Organize by systems and list in head to toe order.

Diagnostic: List results that you have (lab, x-ray, etc.).

A: Diagnosis: Written at your level of understanding of the problem and based on the subjective and objective data that you have presented.

- P:
- 1) Diagnostic (lab, x-ray, EKG, other) that you plan for this patient.
 - 2) Treatment
 - 3) Education
 - 4) Consultation, Collaboration or Referral
 - 5) Follow-up

Remember that for every S (complaint), there must be an O, A, and P (relevant exam, diagnosis and plan). Always sign your notes.

Example: Physical Exam

S: 27yr old female/male presents for physical exam (add additional needs such as employment/sports/etc.)

May add additional concern under "Additional Chief Concern" with description as in episodic visit above.

PMH: Past Hx of or current medical conditions/Recent positive findings in diagnostic tests/Surgical hx/Vaccines