

Part II: Trend

Schizophrenia

Suggested Answer Guidelines



The nurse in the mental health unit is caring for a 35-year-old male client.

The nurse has implemented all medical orders and the nursing plan of care. The following assessment data was collected and recorded in the medical record.

Review the medical record to determine the trend or direction of current clinical data.

- For each finding, identify the direction of the trend by placing an "x" in the appropriate column if the patient's condition has improved, not changed, or worsened. Each row must have 1 response option selected.

Assessment Findings	Improved	Not Changed	Worsened	Meaning/Interpretation
Temperature:				
Pulse:				
Respiration:				
Blood Pressure:				
Pain level:				
Visible on the unit participating in group therapy				
States "I can't stop taking my medications."				

Continuing to experience auditory hallucinations but knows they are not real				
He continues to report a depressed mood with a congruent affect.				
Feels less anxious				

2. Is the *overall* status of the client:

Current Status	Rationale/Why?
a. Improved b. No change c. Declined	

3. Based on the interpretation of current findings, what actions should the nurse take? **Select all that apply.**

Nursing Interventions:	Rationale/Why?
a. Ongoing observations/safety checks	
b. Maintain an emotionally and physically safe environment	
c. Request that the client be discharged home	
d. Be sincere and honest when communicating with the client.	
e. Teach social skills through education, role modeling and practice	
f. Engage the client in reality-based activities	
g. Focus all conversations on the client's hallucinations	
h. Elicit description of the hallucinations to protect the client and others	

Nurse Reflection

4. To strengthen your clinical judgment skills, reflect on your knowledge and the decisions made caring for this patient by answering the reflection questions below.

Reflection Question	Nurse Reflection
What did you learn?	
What content/concepts do you need to understand to make better judgments?	
How will you apply what was learned to improve patient care?	