

Implementation Guidelines for Using NIC on a Nursing Information System

1. The information system should clearly indicate that NIC is being used.
2. NIC intervention labels and definitions should appear in whole and should be clearly labeled as interventions and definitions.
3. Activities are not interventions and should not be labeled as such on the screens.
4. Documentation that the intervention was planned or delivered should be captured at the intervention label level. In addition, an agency may choose to have nurses identify specific activities within the intervention for patient care planning and documentation.
5. The number of activities required in an information system should be kept to as few as possible for each intervention so as not to overburden the provider.
6. If activities are included on the information system, they should be written out as much as possible (given the constraints of the data structure) as they appear in NIC. Activities that must be rewritten to fit short field constraints should reflect the intended meaning.
7. All additional or modified activities should be consistent with the definition of the intervention.
8. Modifications of NIC activities should be done sparingly and only as needed in the practice situation.
9. NIC interventions should be a permanent part of the patients record with capability to retrieve this information.