

Module 1B - #2&3/Frames

Object – Identify patients in the Emergency Department that are at risk for violent behavior. (This is an issue that cuts across all patient populations in the ED.)

The FRAME consists of the following SLOTS:
Please note: the attribute lists are not exhaustive.

*HAS **CLIENT**, with attributes: sex, weight, height, bio/psycho/social history

*HAS **BEHAVIOR**, with attributes: alert, calm, cooperative, agitated, noncooperative, threatening.

*IDENTIFIES **RISK** (could also be described by saying “uses risk assessment technique), with attributes: not likely, unsure, likely

To dissect this example further you could be more specific by adding:

USES **nursing knowledge base**, with attributes: facts from nursing knowledge base.

USES **knowledge of current visit**, with attributes: date, day, time, manner of presentation (walked in, ambulance, police, direct admit to hospital room), accompanying others, chief complaint, etc.

Client attributes can be made more specific by adding:

HAS **eye contact**, with attributes: none, some, normal, staring

HAS **facial expression**, with attributes neutral, happy, sad, angry, etc.

HAS **speech pattern**, with attributes: slow, normal, fast

HAS **color** with attributes: pale, pink, flushed

HAS **position**, with attributes: sitting, crouching, standing, lying on side, lying prone, lying supine

HAS **activity** with attributes: still, movement slow, movement normal, movement fast

HAS **language content**, with attributes: NA, normal for age, confused, nonsensical, threatening to self, threatening to others, grandiose, etc.

HAS **feelings**: content, happy, sad, neutral, thoughts of harming self, thoughts of harming others

This frame can incorporate more than one object. It would work well to identify other types of patients at risk for other types of behavior. For example, it could include the object: Identify admitted patients for risk of suicide.

Client information includes the attribute of admitted patient. Identify risk is the same action used in the frame. Behavior includes patient attributes that describe many types of patient behaviors, including suicidal patterns. An exhaustive list of client attributes/objects, each with *their* own attributes would be able to describe all possible patient behaviors.

This demonstrates how a generic frame such as, “Identify clients at risk for a behavior” could include many different objects.