


Examples of SBAR resources

SBAR cards

SBAR Information Tool



S	Situation – patient’s /client’s details, identify reason for this communication, describe your concern
B	Background – relating to the patient/ client, significant history, this may include medications, investigations/ treatments
A	Assessment – what is your assessment of the patient/ client or situation, this can include clinical impression/ concerns, vital signs/ early warning score
R	Recommendations – be specific, explain what you need, make suggestions, clarify expectations, confirm actions to be taken



SBAR

- S Situation**
Briefly describe the situation.
Give a succinct overview.
- B Background**
Briefly state pertinent history.
What got us to this point?
- A Assessment**
Summarize the facts.
What do you think is going on?
- R Recommendation**
What are you asking for?
What needs to happen next?

Use SBAR to Create a Shared Mental Model for Communication

Use SBAR as a way to structure your conversations with colleagues and other health care providers. Be prepared and practice using SBAR whenever you can.

Helpful Tips

- What is the goal of your communication?
- Start by introducing yourself by name and location when appropriate.
- When making a recommendation, close the loop and make sure both parties agree on the next steps.

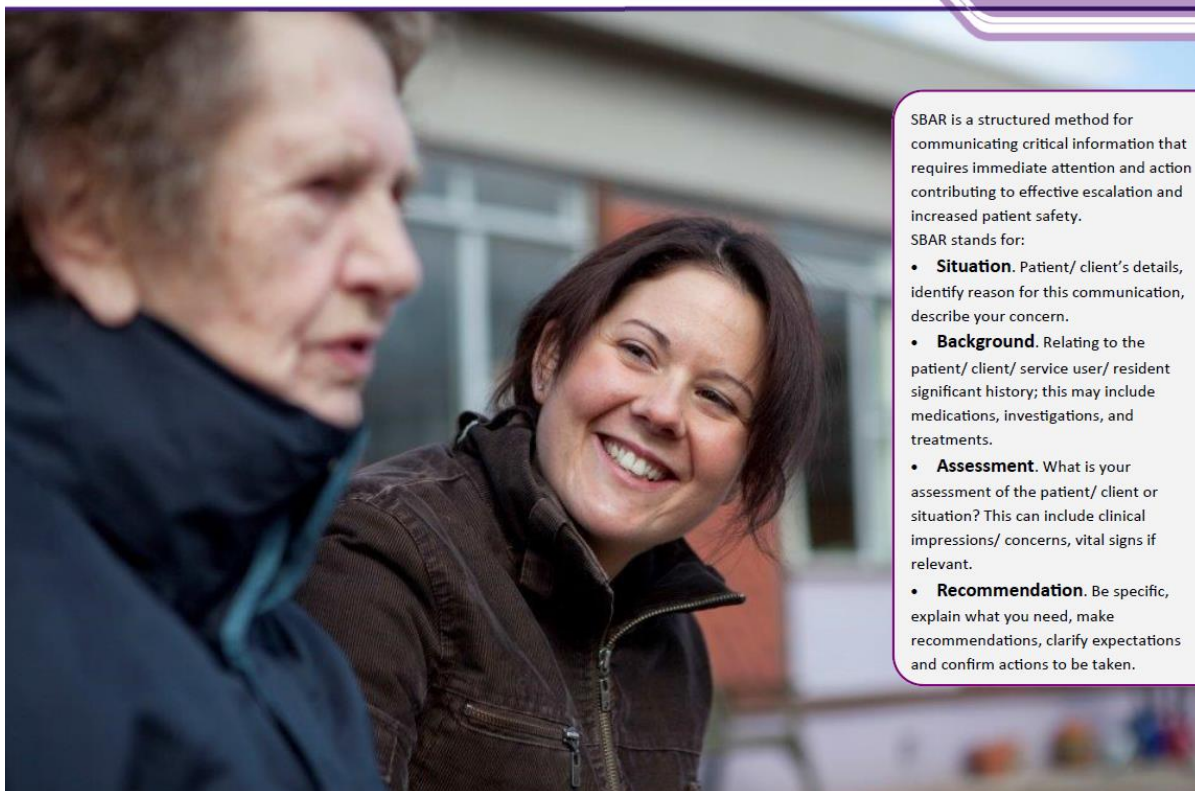
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Examples of SBAR resources

SBAR posters

Communicate and share information using SBAR



SBAR is a structured method for communicating critical information that requires immediate attention and action contributing to effective escalation and increased patient safety.

SBAR stands for:

- **Situation.** Patient/ client's details, identify reason for this communication, describe your concern.
- **Background.** Relating to the patient/ client/ service user/ resident significant history; this may include medications, investigations, and treatments.
- **Assessment.** What is your assessment of the patient/ client or situation? This can include clinical impressions/ concerns, vital signs if relevant.
- **Recommendation.** Be specific, explain what you need, make recommendations, clarify expectations and confirm actions to be taken.

S **Situation:**
I am (name), a nurse on ward (X)
I am calling about (child X)
I am calling because I am concerned that...
(e.g. BP is low/high, pulse is XXXX temperature is XX,
Early Warning Score is XX)

B **Background:**
Child (X) was admitted on (XX date) with
(e.g. respiratory infection)
They have had (X operation/procedure/investigation)
Child (X)'s condition has changed in the last (XX mins)
Their last set of obs were (XXX)
The child's normal condition is...
(e.g. alert/drowsy/confused, pain free)

A **Assessment:**
I think the problem is (XXX)
and I have...
(e.g. given O₂/analgesia, stopped the infusion)
OR
I am not sure what the problem is but child (X)
is deteriorating
OR
I don't know what's wrong but I am really worried

R **Recommendation:**
I need you to...
Come to see the child in the next (XX mins)
AND
Is there anything I need to do in the meantime?
(e.g. stop the fluid/repeat the obs)

Ask receiver to repeat key information to ensure understanding

The SBAR tool originated from the US Navy and was adapted for use in healthcare by
Dr M Leonard and colleagues from Kaiser Permanente, Colorado, USA.
If you require further copies quote SC043

Examples of SBAR resources

SBAR form

S	Date: Time: (24 hrs)
	Drs name:
	My name is:
	From ward/ department/ residential unit
	I am calling about (patient name)
The problem is.....	
B	The patient was admitted with.....
	On/...../.....
	Relevant past medical history.....
	Resuscitation status.....
A	The patient has an early warning score of
	Airway
	Breathing.....
	Circulation
	Disability.....
	Exposure.....
	Other relevant factors, e.g. sepsis screening, blood results, pain, urine output
.....	
R	I request you review the patient within the next hrs/ mins (enter agreed timescale e.g. 30 mins)
	Document any initial instructions

Patient reviewed by doctor at:..... (24 hrs)	

Examples of SBAR resources

Phone stickers

