

# Home Visits

## Introduction: -

Nurses work with families in a variety of settings, including clinics, schools, support groups and offices (a group of people who have similar experiences and concerns and who meet in order to provide emotional help, advice, and encouragement for one another).

Providing health services to families in their homes.

## Purpose of home visits: -

- To give care to the sick, to a postpartum mother and her newborn with the view teach a responsible family member to give the subsequent care.
- To assess the living condition of the patient and his family and their health practices in order to provide the appropriate health teaching.
- To give health teachings regarding the prevention and control of diseases.
- To establish close relationship between the health agencies and the public for the promotion of health.
- To make use of the inter-referral system and to promote the utilization of community services.

The goals of primary health nursing are often met through providing health care to families in their home. It can be provided by:

- a. Visiting nurse association
- b. Hospice
- c. Public health departments
- d. Home health agencies
- e. School districts

## Principles Involved in Preparing for a Home Visit:-

- A home visit must have a purpose or objective.
- Planning for a home visit should make use of all available information about the patient and his family through family records.
- In planning for a home visit, we should consider and give priority to the essential needs of the individual and his family.
- Planning and delivery of care should involve the individual and family.
- The plan should be flexible.

## Advantage of Home Visit:-

Client convenience.

Client control of the setting.

Provision of an option for those clients unwilling or unable to travel.

The ability to individualized services.

A natural, relaxed environment for the discussion of concerns and needs.

## Disadvantage of home visit:-

Costs are major disadvantage, for the following:

Pre-visit preparation.

Travel to and from the home.

Time spent with one client.

Post- visit preparation.

## Skills for effective home visits:-

Observing.

Listening.

Questioning.

Prompting (promote).

## Types of home visits

Voluntary home visit	legally mandated
Requested by the client	Often the client little need for required home visits.
Easier entry for nurse	Difficult entry for nurse
Client controlled interaction	Controlled Nurse interaction
An informal tone	A more formal with distorted nurse client communication.
Mutual discussion of frequency of future visits.	No mutual discussion of frequency of future visits.

## Phases and activities of a home visit process:-

### 1. Initiation phase:-

Began as the result of:

Referral from a health or social agency.

A family request services.

Case finding activities

The first contact between the nurse and the family.

Clarify source of referral for visit.

Clarify purpose for home visit.

## To Be Remember

Building a trusting relationship with the family client is the cornerstone of successful home visit

How to prepare for home visit?



### 2. Pre-visit phase

The nurse should contact the family by telephone before home visit to:

Introduce self (give name and professional identity).

Identify the reason for the contact.

Schedule the home visit.

### Before visiting a family

Review the referral, if this is not the first visit, the family record.

Confirm the time of home visit by telephone.

### Personal safety

Nurse need to examine personal fears.

Certain precautions can be taken in known high risk situations.

Visit in pairs.

Readily identifiable uniforms.

A sign out process indicating timing and location of home visits may be used routinely.

### 3-In Home Phase:-

The nurse provide personal and professional identification and tells the client the location of the agency.

A brief social period allows the client to assess the nurse and establish rapport.

The nurse describes his or her role, responsibilities and limitations.

Establish relationship and implementing the nursing process.

If further services are indicated and the nurse's agency is not appropriate, the nurse can assist the family in identifying other services available in the community.

Can help in initiating referrals.

Families may or may not be able to control interruptions during visit. So the nurse ask for limited time.



#### 4-Termination Phase:-

Reviews with the family what has occurred and accomplished.

Planning for future visits.

#### 5-Post Visit Phase:-

Concluded the home visit and left the client's home.

Record the visit and services provided.

Agency may organize their record by families.

Basic record family folder with all member included.

Each family member has separate record.

Record system vary from agency to agency.

The nurse needs to become familiar with particular system used in the agency.

All system should include the following:-

A database

A nursing diagnosis and problem list.

A plan, including specific goals.

Actual actions and interventions.

Evaluation.

For the success of the process of home visit should include the following: -

Evaluation: is the ongoing process that continually assesses clients progress toward expected outcome.

Termination: of home visits occurs when both client and nurse are satisfied that goals have been met or that appropriate referrals have made.

Telemedicine: which use phone and computer technologies to monitor clients and provide care without the nurse making a home visit.

It is important that recording be current, dated, and signed.