Nursing Informatics Competencies
Personal Plan: Computer Literacy

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Name:_____ Date: _____

Each nurse or nursing student has a unique level of computer literacy in the various computer applications available. Take a few minutes now to assess your level of computer literacy.

Rating Scale:

A. No experience, Novice
B. Some experience, Advanced Beginner
C. Comfortable user, Competent
D. Skilled User, Proficient

Computer Application

1. Word Processing _____

2. Graphic programs _____

3. Databases _____

4. Spreadsheets _____

5. Educational Software _____

6. Internet: WWW _____

7. E-Mail _____

8. Powerpoint _____

9. Expert Decision Systems _____

10. Nursing Information Systems _____

11. Hospital Information System (HIS) _____

12. Website Design _____

13. Multimedia Design _____

14. Discussion Forums _____

15. Chat Rooms _____

16. Internet Radio/Video_____

17. Virtual Simulations _____

18. Telecommunication Devices _____

Personal Plan: Assessing Cyberphobia

Cyberphobia relates to a fear or aversion to using computers at work and/or in routine daily activities. A pronounced level of cyberphobia can inhibit a person's comfort and ability to learn how to use various computer applications.

Reflect on your own feelings and thoughts related to the use of computers in your education, practice and personal life. Do you recognize any feelings of anxiety or ambivalence about using computers?

Yes _____-   No _____

Try the P.A.T.C.H. questionnaire to further explore your current feelings about using computers in health care delivery.

When finished, come back to this page and fill in the fields below:

My score on the P.A.T.C.H. Quiz: _____

Any evidence of Cyberphobia? _____

Your plans to work with these feelings include:

P.A.T.C.H. Assessment Scale
Pretest for Attitudes Toward Computers in Healthcare

Directions:
Each indicator is to be rated using a five point Likart scale.
Choose the response that reflects your attitude for each statement.

SCALE:

1.		2.	3.		4.	5.
Agree Strongly		Agree	Not certain		Disagree	Disagree Strongly

1. The computer is a powerful enabling tool.
2. In healthcare, computers could save a lot of paperwork.
3. Machines and I don't mix.
4. I feel I am a skilled typist.
5. I feel alarmed when I think of using a computer.
6. I have excellent finger dexterity.
7. I regularly use a computer at home.
8. I would love to be a proficient user of computers.
9. Bedside computers will irritate clients.
10. I will never feel relaxed about using a computer.
11. Computers can help me to be creative.
12. I would enjoy learning course work using a computer program.
13. Computers are frustrating to use.
14. Listening to people using computer jargon intimidates me.
15. Computers will someday put health professionals out of a job.
16. I am in control when I use a computer.
17. I relate well to technology and machines.
18. I feel confident that I can master using a computer.
19. I can let my creativity flow when writing using a computer.
20. Computers in healthcare will create more work for nurses.
21. Computers can be great problem-solving tools.
22. Computers are too complicated for me to learn well.
23. Computers are impersonal and dehumanizing.
24. The future promise of computers in healthcare excites me.
25. I feel restless and confused when I think of using a computer.
26. I don't intend to own a home computer.
27. I feel a computer course in nursing is totally unnecessary.
28. People who like computers are introverted and antisocial.
29. I know more about computers than most faculty do.
30. Working with computers is boring and tedious.
31. I can easily master the content of a computer lessons.
32. I feel ambivalent about computers and technology.

P.A.T.C.H. Assessment Scale Scoring

A. For the following Statements, use the scoring scheme in the first table box to find your score for each.

Rating Chosen	Give Yourself these many points
1	2
2	1
3	0
4	-1
5	-2

Use the above scoring scheme to assess your score for each of these statements:

1_____   2_____   4_____   6_____   7_____   8_____   11_____   12_____

16_____   17_____   18_____   19_____   21_____   24_____   29_____   31_____

Now add these up to find Subtotal A: = _____

B. For the remainder of the statements, use the following rating scheme.

Rating Chosen	Give Yourself these many points
5	2
4	1
3	0
2	-1
1	-2

Use the second scoring scheme (above) to assess your score for each of these statements:

3_____   5_____   9_____   10_____   13_____   14_____   15_____   20_____

22_____   23_____   25_____   26_____   27_____   28_____   30_____   32_____

Now add these up to find Subtotal B: = _____

Grand Total: Add Subtotals A and B: = _____

Now turn to next page for an interpretation of your score.

P.A.T.C.H. Quiz Score Interpretations

Below 0 points   Positive indication of Cyberphobia. Beginner stage in experience with computer basics or applications. Ambivalence or anxiety may occur, related to the use of computers in healthcare. May appreciate help learning basic computer skills.

0 to 12 points   Indicates some uneasiness about using computers. Very basic knowledge of computer basics and applications. Unsure of usefulness of computers in healthcare.

13 to 25 points   Moderate comfort in using computers. Has basic knowledge of computers and applications. Limited awareness of applications of computer technology in healthcare.

26 to 38 points   Feels comfortable using user-friendly computer applications. Aware of the usefulness of computers in a variety of settings. Has a realistic view of current computer capabilities in healthcare.

39 to 50 points   Confident of ability to use a variety of computer programs. Sees computers as beneficial in the development of society. Enthusiastic view of the potential of computer use in healthcare.

51 to 64 points   Very confident that they can learn to use a computer to boost creativity, and perform routine functions. Recognizes the unique value of using information technology in society. Idealistic, positive view related to computer applications in healthcare.

Personal Plans: Individualized Plan

Write out a plan of action for yourself to help you to develop at least an informed user level of computer literacy in the following applications.

Name: _____   Date:_____

A. Availability of computer for personal use (describe): _____

_____

_____

B. Applications:

1. WordProcessing _____

2. Graphics Programs _____

3. Databases _____

4. Spreadsheets _____

5. Educational Software _____

6. World Wide Web searches _____

7. Online Library catalogue _____

8. E-mail
_____

9. Discussion Lists _____

10. Group Chatrooms _____

11. Web Site design _____

Personal Plans: Individualized Plan (continued)

12. Use of NIS _____

13. Multimedia design _____

14. Use of Research computer programs: _____

15. Virtual Reality:_____

16. Internet Radio/Video/TV:_____

17. Keeping current with Nursing Informatics Trends: _____

_____

In the space below, write out five goals for yourself, related to learning Nursing Informatics theory and application. Try to make these fairly short-term, i.e. within the next five years.