

**Moving Toward Change:
Summarizing the Assessment**

There are three principal stages in this process:

- Summarizing and making sense of the assessment information
- Identifying strengths
- Identifying with clients and families areas for change.

1. “White female, congestive heart failure, diabetes, no support”

2. Mrs. G. has had a severe stroke that has impacted her right side. She is going to live with her daughter in Miami

3. Mr. Pinkley lives alone in an independent care apartment dwelling. He does not have enough money to pay for all of his medicine. He ambulates with a cane.

4. Mrs. Talley called in and requested help. I completed a home visit and will proceed by finding additional resources.

5. Marie is slightly overweight woman who has a lot of outfits that do not match. I always think it is funny to meet a client that does not have a clue that she is not able to match her clothes. Like her clothes Marie is very colorful. Sometimes when I look really good she will tell me and I appreciate that she has good taste and knows that I look good. Also, I think her daughter could look really good too—if she wanted to, but she might want to drop a couple of pounds.

6. Mrs. Porter lives by herself in a small apartment in the downtown area. She doesn’t drive anymore, but is able to walk to buy groceries at a neighborhood store. Her pastor died recently and she feels sad because she can no longer get a ride to church and probably wouldn’t go anyway because she is not ready to meet a new pastor. She has COPD and manages very well because nothing is too far away. Most days she watches television. She can afford her medicines and pays her bills on time. All of her friends have died.

7. Mr. R. lives in a brick ranch-style home in a rural part of the county. He keeps a little garden and drives himself to the market every Sunday after church. He dresses in old flannel shirts and army fatigue pants and does not seem to care that they are too dirty. He complains about his aches and pains and says sometimes he is constipated. Mr. R’s friends have recently died. His family does not live in the area. He takes several medicines but cannot remember the names of them.

- Do they cover all the domains?
- Is there enough specific information for someone else to tell what the situation is with the client?
- Is the summary actually about the client?