

Nursing Action-Verb Bank

Strong openers for resume bullets, grouped by what you want to show

Every experience bullet should open with a strong past-tense verb (present tense for your current role). Avoid 'responsible for', 'duties included', and 'helped with' — they read as passive and generic. Pick a verb below that matches the accomplishment you are describing, then follow it with a number or scope.

Direct patient care: Assessed, Administered, Managed, Monitored, Stabilized, Triageed, Titrated, Documented, Escalated, Prioritized.

Safety & quality: Reduced, Prevented, Improved, Standardized, Audited, Implemented, Championed, Sustained, Achieved, Maintained.

Leadership & coordination: Led, Coordinated, Precepted, Mentored, Delegated, Supervised, Cross-trained, Facilitated, Directed, Onboarded.

Communication & education: Educated, Counseled, Advocated, Collaborated, Communicated, Reported, Explained, Coached, Liaised, Presented.

Process & throughput: Streamlined, Cut, Accelerated, Optimized, Restructured, Tracked, Scheduled, Expanded, Resolved, Increased.

How to use them

Weak: Was responsible for helping patients with their care needs.

Stronger: Assessed and stabilized 5–6 telemetry patients per shift, escalating 30+ dysrhythmia events without a missed rapid response.

One verb per bullet. If you catch yourself reusing the same verb three times, swap in one of the alternatives above — variety keeps the resume from reading like a template.