Physical therapy goal writing examples Academic PDF

Understanding the Importance of Physical Therapy Goal Writing Examples

Physical therapy goal writing examples serve as essential tools for clinicians to develop clear, measurable, and achievable objectives for their patients. Well-crafted goals not only guide treatment plans but also motivate patients by providing tangible milestones. Effective goal setting enhances communication between therapists and patients, ensures accountability, and facilitates progress tracking.

In the realm of physical therapy, goal writing is both an art and a science. It requires understanding the patient's unique needs, limitations, and aspirations, as well as applying evidence-based practices. Well-structured goals follow the SMART criteria?Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-bound?which helps in creating effective and realistic targets.

This article explores various physical therapy goal writing examples across different patient populations and conditions, providing practical templates and strategies to optimize goal setting in clinical practice.

Fundamentals of Writing Effective Physical Therapy Goals

Key Components of a Well-Written Goal

A comprehensive physical therapy goal should encompass the following elements:

- Patient-Centered: Reflects the patient?s personal goals and priorities.
- Specific: Clearly defines what is to be achieved.
- Measurable: Includes criteria to assess progress.
- Achievable: Realistic given the patient's condition and resources.
- Relevant: Pertains directly to the patient's needs and daily functions.
- Time-bound: Sets a deadline for achievement.

Common Challenges in Goal Writing

- Vague or non-specific goals
- Lack of measurable criteria
- Goals that are too ambitious or too easy
- Ignoring patient preferences and lifestyle
- Failure to update goals based on progress

By avoiding these pitfalls and adhering to SMART principles, therapists can craft more effective and motivating goals.

Physical Therapy Goal Writing Examples by Condition

Postoperative Knee Replacement

Example 1: Short-term goal

- Patient will demonstrate the ability to perform straight leg raises independently within 3 days post-surgery.

Example 2: Long-term goal

- Patient will achieve a knee range of motion of at least 0-120 degrees and walk 150 feet independently with minimal assist within 6 weeks post-operation.

Lower Back Pain

Example 1: Short-term goal

- Patient will reduce pain levels from 7/10 to 4/10 on the Visual Analog Scale during activity within 2 weeks.

Example 2: Long-term goal

- Patient will regain functional lumbar mobility, performing daily activities without pain or discomfort within 8 weeks.

Stroke Rehabilitation

Example 1: Short-term goal

- Patient will demonstrate improved upper extremity strength, performing 3 repetitions of assisted reaching tasks with 90% accuracy within 2 weeks.

Example 2: Long-term goal

- Patient will walk independently for 100 meters using an assistive device and perform self-care tasks with minimal assistance within 3 months.

Sports Injury (Rotator Cuff Tear)

Example 1: Short-term goal

- Patient will demonstrate correct scapular stabilization exercises with proper form during supervised sessions within 1 week.

Example 2: Long-term goal

- Patient will return to recreational tennis without shoulder pain or weakness and perform overhead activities pain-free within 12 weeks.

Creating Customized Goals for Different Patient Populations

Pediatric Patients

Goals should be engaging and age-appropriate, focusing on functional and developmental milestones.

Examples:

- Child will walk independently on uneven surfaces with minimal fall risk within 4 weeks.
- Child will improve fine motor skills to complete dressing tasks independently within 6 weeks.

Geriatric Patients

Goals often emphasize safety, balance, and independence.

Examples:

- Patient will perform safe transfers from bed to chair with supervision within 2 weeks.
- Patient will improve balance to prevent falls, achieving a Tinetti score of at least 24 within 4 weeks.

Patients with Chronic Conditions

Goals focus on maintaining function, managing symptoms, and improving quality of life.

Examples:

- Patient will reduce fatigue levels during daily activities by 30% within 8 weeks.
- Patient will participate in a low-impact exercise program three times per week for 30 minutes over the next 12 weeks.

Sample Physical Therapy Goal Writing Templates

Using templates can streamline the goal writing process and ensure all key elements are addressed. Here are some practical templates with examples:

Template 1: Functional Mobility

?Patient will [perform specific activity] with [desired level of independence or performance] within [timeframe].?

Example:

- Patient will ambulate 200 meters independently using an assistive device within 4 weeks.

Template 2: Pain Reduction

?Patient will decrease pain from [initial level] to [target level] during [activity] within [timeframe].?

Example:

- Patient will report pain levels below 3/10 during walking exercises within 2 weeks.

Template 3: Range of Motion (ROM) Improvement

?Patient will improve [joint] ROM from [initial measurement] to [target measurement] within [timeframe].?

Example:

- Patient will achieve shoulder flexion of 150 degrees from initial 100 degrees within 6 weeks.

Template 4: Strength Enhancement

?Patient will increase [muscle group] strength from [initial grade or measurement] to [target grade or measurement] within [timeframe].?

Example:

- Patient will improve quadriceps strength from 3/5 to 4/5 within 4 weeks.

Best Practices for Effective Goal Writing in Physical Therapy

- Involve the Patient: Incorporate patient goals and preferences to increase motivation.
- Use Objective Measurements: Incorporate tools like goniometers, dynamometers, or pain scales.
- Regularly Review and Adjust Goals: Update goals based on progress or setbacks.
- Document Clearly and Consistently: Use standardized language for clarity and legal purposes.
- Align Goals with Treatment Interventions: Ensure goals are achievable through planned therapies.

Conclusion: Enhancing Patient Outcomes Through Effective Goal Writing

Effective physical therapy goal writing is fundamental for successful patient outcomes. By utilizing clear, measurable, and patient-centered physical therapy goal writing examples, clinicians can design targeted interventions, motivate patients, and accurately monitor progress. Remember, the key lies in customizing goals for each patient?s unique needs, applying SMART principles, and maintaining flexibility to adapt as recovery progresses.

Implementing these strategies and examples in daily practice not only improves clinical efficiency but also fosters a collaborative environment conducive to optimal rehabilitation outcomes. Whether managing postoperative recovery, chronic conditions, or pediatric development, well-crafted goals are the cornerstone of effective physical therapy practice.

Physical therapy goal writing examples are essential tools that help clinicians, patients, and healthcare teams align on treatment objectives, measure progress, and ensure accountability throughout the rehabilitation process. Well-crafted goals serve as a roadmap, guiding interventions and providing clear benchmarks for success. Whether you're a seasoned therapist or new to the field, understanding how to write effective, SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Time-bound) goals is fundamental to delivering high-quality care and optimizing patient outcomes.

The Importance of Effective Goal Writing in Physical Therapy

Before diving into specific examples, it?s important to recognize why goal writing is a cornerstone of physical therapy practice:

- Clarity and Direction: Goals provide a clear focus for therapy sessions.
- Motivation: Well-defined goals can motivate patients by illustrating tangible progress.
- Documentation: Goals serve as legal and professional documentation of treatment plans.
- Evaluation: They enable therapists to measure progress and make data-driven adjustments.
- Communication: Goals facilitate communication among healthcare providers, patients, and caregivers.

Characteristics of Well-Written Physical Therapy Goals

Before exploring examples, it?s valuable to understand the key characteristics of effective goals:

- Specific: Clearly define what is to be achieved.
- Measurable: Include criteria to assess progress.
- Achievable: Realistic within the patient?s condition and resources.
- Relevant: Align with the patient?s overall health, lifestyle, and priorities.
- Time-bound: Set within a specific timeframe for achievement.

These principles, often summarized as SMART goals, ensure that goals are both practical and motivating.

Common Types of Goals in Physical Therapy

Goals may vary based on the setting, condition, and patient needs, but generally fall into categories such as:

- Impairment-based goals: Focus on improving strength, range of motion, or pain reduction.
- Activity-based goals: Aim to restore specific activities or functions.
- Participation-based goals: Target broader participation in social, work, or recreational activities.

Understanding these categories helps in tailoring goals to the patient?s unique circumstances.

Physical Therapy Goal Writing Examples

Below are detailed examples of goals across different patient scenarios, demonstrating how to craft effective, SMART statements.

- Postoperative Knee Replacement

Impairment-focused goal:

- "Patient will improve knee flexion to 120 degrees and extension to 0 degrees within 4 weeks post-arthroplasty."

Activity-focused goal:

- "Patient will be able to ascend and descend stairs independently without assistive devices within 6 weeks."

Participation-focused goal:

- "Patient will resume walking unassisted for 1 mile in the community within 8 weeks."

- Stroke Rehabilitation

Impairment-focused goal:

- "Patient will increase affected side shoulder abduction strength from 2/5 to 4/5 on the MRC scale within 6 weeks."

Activity-focused goal:

- "Patient will be able to perform sit-to-stand transfers independently from a standard chair within 8 weeks."

Participation-focused goal:

- "Patient will return to participating in weekly community dance classes within 3 months."

- Low Back Pain

Impairment-focused goal:

- "Patient will reduce pain to 3/10 on the Numeric Pain Rating Scale during activity within 2 weeks."

Activity-focused goal:

- "Patient will demonstrate proper body mechanics for lifting objects independently within 3 weeks."

Participation-focused goal:

- "Patient will return to gardening activities for 30 minutes without increased pain within 4 weeks."

- Pediatric Developmental Delay

Impairment-focused goal:

- "Child will improve gross motor skills, including crawling and standing, to age-appropriate

milestones within 6 months."

Activity-focused goal:

- "Child will independently walk 10 meters with minimal assist by 12 months of age."

Participation-focused goal:

- "Child will participate in preschool activities with peers without additional support within 1 year."

How to Tailor Goals to Individual Patients

While examples provide templates, each goal must be personalized. Consider these factors:

- Patient?s baseline function: Understand current abilities.
- Patient?s priorities: Incorporate what matters most to the patient.
- Condition severity: Set realistic expectations.
- Support systems: Account for available resources.
- Environmental factors: Include considerations like home or work environment.

Personalization enhances motivation and ensures goals are meaningful.

Tips for Writing Effective Physical Therapy Goals

- Use clear, concise language avoiding jargon.
- Involve the patient in goal setting to foster engagement.
- Ensure goals align with the overall treatment plan.
- Review and revise goals as needed based on progress.
- Document goals in the patient?s record for consistency.

Sample Goal Writing Templates

Here are some templates to help you craft your own goals:

- Impairment-Based:

"Within [timeframe], patient will improve [specific impairment] from [current status] to [desired status], as measured by [assessment tool]."

- Activity-Based:

"Within [timeframe], patient will independently perform [activity] with [desired level of assistance or independence]."

- Participation-Based:

"Within [timeframe], patient will participate in [activity or participation] at [desired frequency or level], demonstrating [specific outcome]."

Final Thoughts: Crafting Goals that Drive Success

Effective physical therapy goal writing examples serve as a foundation for successful rehabilitation. Remember, the quality of your goals directly impacts patient motivation, clinical outcomes, and documentation quality. Strive for clarity, specificity, and relevance, and always involve your patient in the process. With practice, your goal statements will become powerful tools that guide meaningful, measurable progress toward improved function and quality of life.

In summary, mastering the art of physical therapy goal writing involves understanding SMART principles, tailoring goals to individual needs, and consistently reviewing progress. Use diverse examples as inspiration, and always aim to craft goals that are as motivating as they are achievable.

QuestionAnswer What are some common examples of physical therapy goals related to improving mobility? Common goals include increasing range of motion in affected joints, improving gait and balance, and restoring functional walking ability within a specified timeframe. How should I formulate measurable physical therapy goals? Goals should be Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-bound (SMART). For example, 'Increase knee flexion to 120 degrees within 4 weeks.' Can you provide an example of a goal for post-surgical shoulder rehabilitation? Yes, an example is: 'Restore shoulder flexion to 150 degrees and abduction to 130 degrees, with pain reduction, within 6 weeks.' What are some goal-writing examples for improving patient strength? An example includes: 'Increase quadriceps strength from 3/5 to 4/5 on the MMT scale within 3 weeks.' How do I write functional goals for patients with neurological conditions? Functional goals could be: 'Improve patient's ability to transfer from bed to chair independently within 2 weeks.' What are some examples of pain management goals in physical therapy? An example is: 'Reduce patient?s pain level from 7/10 to 3/10 during activity within 2 weeks.' How can I incorporate patient-specific needs into goal writing? By tailoring goals to individual patient activities and priorities, such as 'Enable

patient to return to gardening activities within 8 weeks.' What are some short-term versus long-term goal examples in physical therapy? Short-term goal: 'Improve ankle dorsiflexion by 10 degrees in 2 weeks.' Long-term goal: 'Return to independent community ambulation within 3 months.' Why is it important to include timeframes in physical therapy goals? Timeframes help track progress, motivate patients, and ensure goals are realistic and achievable within a specified period.

Related keywords: physical therapy goals, goal writing examples, rehabilitation objectives, treatment plan goals, SMART goals, therapy documentation, patient progress goals, functional improvement goals, clinical goal setting, physiotherapy goal examples

physical science creative teaching press physical changes

Physical science creative teaching press physical changes is a vital topic in the realm of science education, especially for educators aiming to foster understanding and curiosity about the fundamental nature of matter. Understanding physical changes is essential for students to grasp how substances transform without altering their chemical composition. This article explores the concept of physical changes in physical science, emphasizing creative teaching methods, key principles, real-world examples, and effective strategies to make learning engaging and comprehensive.

Understanding Physical Changes in Physical Science

What Are Physical Changes?

Physical changes refer to alterations in the form, appearance, or state of a substance that do not modify its chemical identity. These changes are often reversible, meaning the original substance can typically be recovered without chemical reactions taking place.

Examples of physical changes include:

- Melting ice into water
- Boiling water into vapor
- Cutting paper
- Dissolving sugar in tea
- Crushing a can

Key characteristics of physical changes:

- No new substances formed
- Usually reversible
- Involve changes in physical properties like shape, size, or phase

Difference Between Physical and Chemical Changes

While physical changes involve no change in chemical composition, chemical changes result in the formation of new substances with different properties.

| Aspect | Physical Change | Chemical Change |

|---|---|---|

| Definition | Change in physical form or state | Formation of new substances |

| Reversibility | Usually reversible | Usually irreversible |

| Example | Melting ice | Burning wood |

Creative Teaching Strategies for Physical Changes

Engaging students in understanding physical changes requires innovative and creative teaching methods. Here are some effective strategies:

Hands-On Experiments and Demonstrations

Practical activities help students visualize and understand physical changes concretely.

Examples include:

- Melting ice cubes and observing the change
- Evaporating saltwater
- Crumpling aluminum foil
- Freezing water to form ice
- Dissolving sugar and salt

Tips for effective experiments:

- Use clear, simple materials

- Encourage students to record observations
- Discuss reversible vs. irreversible changes

Interactive Visual Aids and Simulations

Utilize multimedia tools like animations and virtual labs to demonstrate physical changes that are difficult to observe directly.

Benefits include:

- Enhancing visualization skills
- Providing safe environments for experimentation
- Catering to diverse learning styles

Storytelling and Real-Life Contexts

Integrate stories or real-world examples to make the concept relatable.

Examples:

- How ice melts outside on a sunny day
- How a puddle evaporates after rain
- The process of freezing water into ice cubes at home

Creative Classroom Activities

Engage students through activities that promote exploration and discussion.

Ideas include:

- "Change Detective" game where students identify physical changes around them
- Group projects on different physical changes observed in nature
- Art projects like sculpting or paper folding to demonstrate physical transformations

Key Concepts and Principles of Physical Changes

States of Matter and Phase Changes

Understanding how matter transitions between solid, liquid, and gas states is central to physical science.

Common phase changes:

- Melting (solid to liquid)
- Freezing (liquid to solid)
- Vaporization or boiling (liquid to gas)
- Condensation (gas to liquid)
- Sublimation (solid to gas)

Teaching tip: Use diagrams and models to illustrate these transitions dynamically.

Properties of Materials During Physical Changes

Monitor how physical properties such as shape, volume, density, and color change during physical transformations.

Examples:

- Volume expansion of metal when heated
- Changes in shape during molding or crushing
- Color changes due to temperature effects

Reversibility and Conservation of Mass

Most physical changes are reversible and adhere to the law of conservation of mass, meaning the total mass remains constant during the change.

Discussion points:

- How physical changes do not alter the chemical identity
- Examples demonstrating conservation of mass in physical changes

Real-World Applications of Physical Changes

Understanding physical changes has numerous applications across industries and daily life.

In Manufacturing and Industry

- Metal forging and shaping
- Plastic molding
- Food processing (freezing, boiling, drying)

In Nature and Environment

- Water cycle processes like evaporation and condensation
- Glacial melting
- Weathering of rocks

In Daily Life

- Cooking (boiling, freezing)
- Cleaning (dissolving detergents)
- Recycling materials like aluminum cans

Assessment and Evaluation Strategies

To gauge understanding, educators can implement various assessment tools:

- Quizzes and Worksheets: Focused on identifying physical changes
- Observation and Lab Reports: Documenting experiments
- Group Discussions: Explaining processes and concepts
- Creative Projects: Designing models or presentations illustrating physical changes

Challenges and Solutions in Teaching Physical Changes

Common challenges include:

- Abstract concepts difficult for students to grasp
- Confusing physical changes with chemical changes
- Limited access to laboratory resources

Solutions:

- Use visual aids and models extensively
- Reinforce concepts with real-life examples
- Incorporate virtual labs and simulations
- Encourage critical thinking and questioning

Conclusion

Teaching physical science with a focus on physical changes demands creativity, engagement, and clarity. By employing hands-on experiments, visual tools, storytelling, and real-world contexts, educators can foster a deep understanding of physical changes among students. Recognizing the importance of these concepts not only enhances scientific literacy but also prepares learners to appreciate the dynamic nature of matter in everyday life and various industries. As educators continue to innovate in their teaching approaches, the topic of physical changes remains a fundamental and exciting area of physical science education.

Keywords for SEO Optimization:

- Physical science
- Creative teaching methods
- Physical changes
- Science education
- Phase changes
- Reversible changes
- Hands-on science experiments
- Teaching physical science effectively
- Real-world science applications

Physical Science Creative Teaching Press Physical Changes: A Comprehensive Guide to Engaging Science Education

In the realm of physical science education, understanding the concept of physical changes is fundamental. When educators utilize resources from the Creative Teaching Press, particularly their materials on physical science, they open doors to innovative, hands-on learning experiences. This guide delves into the essence of physical changes, exploring how teachers can effectively introduce, demonstrate, and assess this critical scientific concept using creative teaching strategies and resources.

Understanding Physical Changes in Science

Physical changes refer to alterations in the state or appearance of a substance without changing its

chemical composition. These changes are often reversible and are fundamental to students' grasp of material properties, states of matter, and the nature of physical phenomena.

Key Characteristics of Physical Changes:

- No new substance forms
- Usually reversible
- Changes involve physical properties like shape, size, phase, or texture
- Do not affect the chemical identity of the substance

Examples include melting, freezing, boiling, condensation, breaking, and dissolving.

Why Focus on Physical Changes?

Teaching about physical changes lays the groundwork for understanding more complex topics like chemical reactions and molecular structure. It also encourages observational skills, critical thinking, and science process skills such as hypothesizing, experimenting, and analyzing.

Using creative teaching methods, including hands-on activities, visual aids, and real-world applications, enhances student engagement and comprehension.

Effective Strategies for Teaching Physical Changes

- Hands-On Experiments and Demonstrations

Experiments are the cornerstone of science teaching. Engaging students with tangible experiences helps solidify abstract concepts.

Sample Activities:

- Melting Ice: Show how ice melts into water when heated, emphasizing phase change from solid to liquid.
- Dissolving Salt or Sugar: Demonstrate solubility and how substances can undergo physical changes without chemical reactions.
- Crushing or Breaking: Break chalk or plastic to illustrate physical alteration, emphasizing that the material remains the same.

Tips:

- Use clear, simple materials.
- Encourage students to record observations and hypothesize outcomes.
- Discuss reversibility after each activity.

- Visual Aids and Graphic Organizers

Visual tools help students visualize the concept and organize their understanding.

Examples:

- Charts comparing physical and chemical changes
- Diagrams illustrating phase changes
- Flowcharts depicting the steps in various physical processes

- Incorporate Creative Media and Resources

Creative Teaching Press offers a suite of resources, including posters, activity books, and digital content, designed to make learning about physical changes interactive and memorable.

Utilize:

- Illustrated posters showing different physical changes
- Interactive worksheets that challenge students to classify changes
- Story-based scenarios that involve physical change concepts

- Real-Life Applications and Contextual Learning

Connecting science to students? everyday experiences makes lessons relevant and meaningful.

Examples:

- Melting ice in a beverage
- Freezing water to make ice cubes
- Dissolving sugar in coffee or tea
- Physical alterations in manufacturing or cooking

Classroom Activities and Lesson Plans

Here's a sample outline for a comprehensive lesson:

Lesson Title: Exploring Physical Changes

Objectives:

- Define physical change
- Identify different types of physical changes
- Conduct simple experiments to observe physical changes

Materials Needed:

- Ice cubes
- Water
- Salt
- Sugar
- Plastic or glass containers
- Crayons or chalk
- Safety goggles

Procedure:

- Introduction (10 minutes): Discuss what physical changes are, using visuals.
- Demonstration (15 minutes): Melting ice and dissolving salt/sugar.
- Student Activity (30 minutes): Students perform experiments:

- Observe ice melting
- Dissolve sugar in water
- Break chalk into pieces
- Freeze water and observe ice formation

- Discussion (15 minutes): Students share observations, compare results, and classify each change.
- Assessment (10 minutes): Quiz or worksheet to reinforce understanding.

Assessment Tips:

- Use questioning strategies to assess understanding.
- Have students draw diagrams of their experiments and label physical changes.

Assessing Understanding of Physical Changes

Assessment should gauge both conceptual understanding and practical skills.

Methods:

- Observation during activities
- Student reflections and explanations
- Quizzes with multiple-choice and short-answer questions
- Concept maps illustrating types of changes

Common Misconceptions and How to Address Them

- Misconception: Physical changes always involve a change in the substance's chemical identity.

Correction: Emphasize that physical changes do not alter the chemical structure, using examples like melting ice or tearing paper.

- Misconception: All physical changes are reversible.

Correction: Clarify that some physical changes, like breaking or cutting, are reversible, but others, like tearing or dissolving, may not be easily reversible.

Integrating Creative Teaching Press Resources

Creative Teaching Press provides various materials tailored for physical science instruction, which can elevate your teaching approach:

- Activity Books: Ready-made experiments and activities that align with standards.
- Posters and Visuals: Engaging images that reinforce concepts.
- Interactive Worksheets: Opportunities for students to classify and analyze physical changes.

- Digital Resources: Online games and quizzes to supplement lessons.

Strategies for Integration:

- Use posters as classroom decor to continually reinforce concepts.
- Incorporate activity books into small-group work or centers.
- Assign digital quizzes as formative assessments.

Extending Learning Beyond the Classroom

Encourage students to observe physical changes in their environment.

Assignments:

- Keep a science journal recording physical changes observed at home or outdoors.
- Research and present on real-world applications of physical changes in industries.
- Design their own experiments related to physical changes and share findings.

Conclusion

Understanding physical changes is a vital component of physical science education. By leveraging creative teaching strategies and resources, such as those provided by Creative Teaching Press, educators can foster curiosity, deepen understanding, and nurture scientific literacy among students. From hands-on experiments to visual aids and real-world connections, teaching physical changes effectively prepares students for more advanced topics and encourages a lifelong appreciation for science.

Remember: The goal is to make science accessible, engaging, and relevant. Through creative teaching approaches, educators can inspire the next generation of scientists and thinkers to explore the fascinating world of physical science.

QuestionAnswer What are some effective creative teaching strategies for explaining physical changes in science classes? Creative strategies include hands-on experiments, visual demonstrations, interactive models, and storytelling to help students grasp concepts like melting, freezing, and condensation in engaging ways. How can teachers make the concept of physical changes more relatable to students? Teachers can use everyday examples such as ice melting, boiling water, or folding paper to illustrate physical changes, making the concepts more familiar and easier to understand. What role does the Physical Science Creative Teaching Press play in improving science education? The Physical Science Creative Teaching Press provides innovative

resources, lesson plans, and activities designed to foster creativity and enhance student understanding of physical science concepts like physical changes. What are some common misconceptions students have about physical changes, and how can creative teaching address them? Students often confuse physical changes with chemical changes. Creative teaching methods like experiments and visual aids can clarify that physical changes do not alter the substance's identity, helping to correct misconceptions. Can technology enhance teaching about physical changes in physical science? If so, how? Yes, technology such as virtual labs, simulations, and interactive videos can provide dynamic and visual representations of physical changes, making abstract concepts more accessible and engaging for students.

Related keywords: physical science, creative teaching, physical changes, science education, hands-on experiments, teaching resources, science curriculum, classroom activities, scientific concepts, educational publishing

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