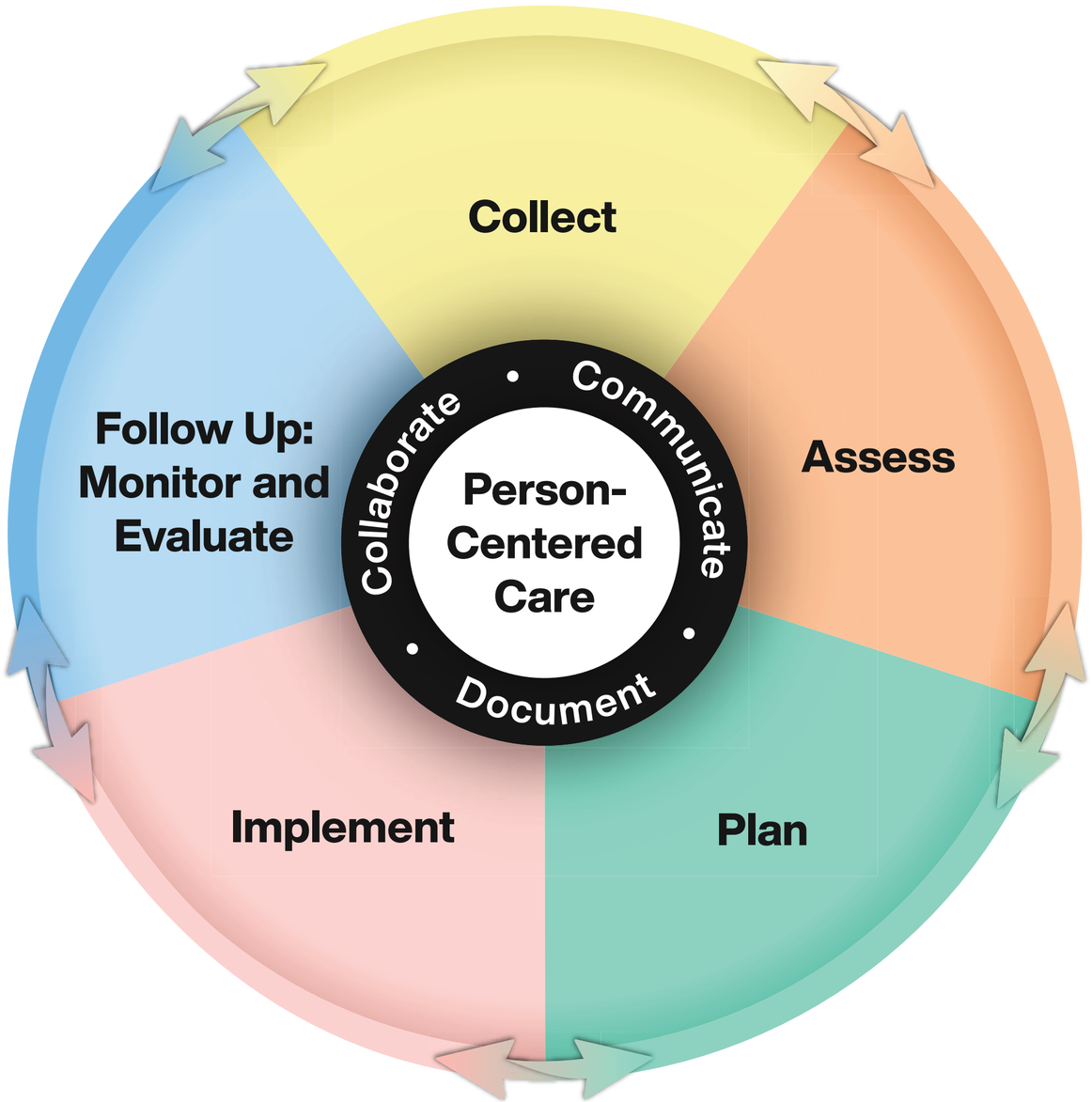
Pharmacists' Patient Care Process



Pharmacists, as medication experts and integral members of the health care team, are essential health care providers who use a person-centered approach to optimize each patient's medication and health outcomes.

Guided by evidence, clinical reasoning, and complexity of patient needs, pharmacists apply the five steps of the Pharmacists' Patient Care Process to help patients meet their health goals.

Collect

The pharmacist ensures the collection of necessary subjective and objective information about the patient to understand the relevant medication and medical history, overall health status, and other pertinent factors. Information may be gathered and verified from multiple sources (e.g., the patient, caregiver, observations, existing patient records, and other health care professionals).

Assess

The pharmacist assesses the collected information to identify and prioritize patient needs to inform the establishment of a care plan.

Plan

The pharmacist develops a person-centered, evidence-based, cost-conscious care plan in partnership with the patient and/or caregiver, and in coordination with other care team members.

Implement

In providing person-centered care, the pharmacist implements a prioritized care plan in partnership with the patient and/or caregiver and in coordination with other care team members.

Follow Up: Monitor and Evaluate

The pharmacist follows up to monitor and evaluate the implementation of the care plan and the patient's overall health in collaboration with the patient, caregiver, and other care team members, as needed.