Nurse:

Action screen:

What option would you like to choose?

(1) Create a new chart/add a patient

(2) Close a patient's chart

(3) Display Chart information for a patient

(4) Record a symptom

(5) Logout user

Our first option allows the Nurse to create a new open chart for a given hcno, close a currently open chart if there is one (then open a new chart if desired) or add a patient into the system and then open a chart for them. If a hcno is supplied as an argument, then a chart is immediately opened for that patient (provided there isn’t one already open). Access\_hcno gets a valid hcno that may or may not be in the db, if it isn’t in the db we use a series of ‘get\_attribute’ calls to get all the values needed for a patient (in the correct format for entering into the db), and then insert them.

Then we check if there are any open charts in the db for that hcno, if there are, then it asks if you’d like to close it. If you answer ‘yes’ then it closes that chart and opens a new one, if ‘no’ then it returns you to the Nurse’s action screen. To open a new chart, it calls new\_chart\_ID in utilites, which generates an unused chart ID. It then inserts this new chart into the db.

The second option allows the nurse to close a chart. It uses get\_hcno to get a correct hcno that’s already in the db. Then it checks if there are any open charts, if no, then it asks the nurse if they want to open one, if there is an open chart then it asks if the nurse wants to “close” it by updating edate on that chart to the current time.

For brevity, the third option is the same as the doctor’s first option.

For brevity, the fourth option is almost the same as the doctor’s second option. The important difference is that if you are a nurse and the patient has no open chart, you are given the option to open a new one, which takes you to the special case of the first nurse option that creates an open chart for a hcno passed as an argument. Then it drops the nurse right back into adding a symptom.

The fifth option returns the user to the login screen.