

Best Practices for Clinical CoT

✓ DO

- Use clear, explicit step labels
- Reference clinical guidelines
- Verify reasoning logic
- Include safety checks
- Test on diverse cases

X AVOID

- Vague instructions
- Too many steps (>7-8)
- Ignoring contradictions
- Blind trust in output
- Skipping validation

Key Principles

- 1. Clarity:** Each step should be clear and actionable
- 2. Completeness:** Cover all critical decision points
- 3. Safety:** Always include risk assessment
- 4. Evidence:** Ground reasoning in medical literature
- 5. Validation:** Human expert review essential

Remember: CoT is a tool to augment, not replace, clinical judgment