2025/10/16 21:01 1/3 Plan Templates

## **Plan Templates**

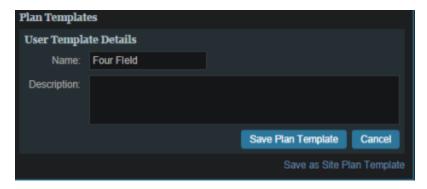
Plan Templates are a powerful feature of Astroid that can greatly reduce the time spent in creating high quality treatment plans. In a simple sense, a Plan Template is just a starting point that can be used when creating new treatment plans for this or other patients. When a Plan Template is applied during new plan creation (see here for creating a new plan), all user specified plan parameters from the template are copied into the new plan. In essence you are applying the plan to a new set of images and structures, therefore it is important that structure names and other data are consistent in your Patient Models when using Plan Templates.

## **Saving Plan Templates**

*Plan Templates* can be defined globally at the site level for all users at your institution and each user is also free to create their own private list of user level *Plan Templates*. A *Plan Template* can be easily created from any existing plan by opening the General/History block. At the bottom of this block the user may then choose either *Save as User Plan Template* or *Save as Site Plan Template*.



The user then provides name for the Template and fills in any description information as desired.



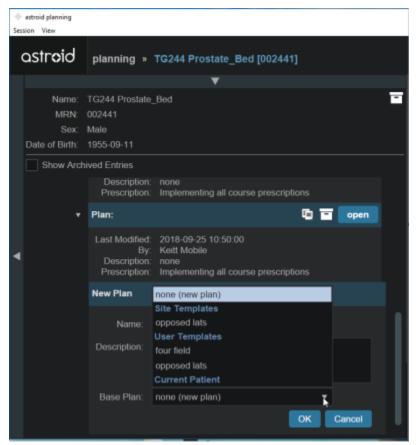
When saving an existing plan as a template, there are a few rules/tips that should be kept in mind which will help make your templates easier to use in the future:

- In order for templates to work well there needs to be consistency in use of structure names (e.g.-Brainstem consistently labeled Brainstem, not brainstem, Brain stem, brain\_stem etc.). Note that proper and consistent use of *Site Structure Templates* is a great way to ensure this is adhered to by all users.
- Most Astroid Plan parameters reference data that will change properly when applied to a new *Patient Model* using a *Plan Template*, however, care should be taken when using *Explicit Points* as these include fixed coordinate values that they may not transfer as desired from plan to plan. avoiding the use of *Explicit Points* is the best practice for *Plan Templates*, but if they must be used be sure to check each explicit point in the new plan after applying a template.
- Plan Templates are specific to the Site Structure Template used by the Patient Model; therefore if a template is created for a prostate patient, for example, that template will not show up for a breast patient due to the Site Structure Template selection being different.
- Keep in mind that a *Plan Template* can be created to any level of completion desired within the planning process. For example, a simple template could be created that adds only a few planning structures (e.g. rinds, expansions, etc) or a complex template could be saved that includes all plan data including the full optimization constraints and objectives. Different disease sites may lend themselves to different levels of detail in the *Plan Template* so users are encouraged to explore different options to determine what works best for their clinical workflow.

## **Using Plan Templates**

Plan Templates are applied when creating a new plan:

- 1. Click on the blue Add Plan link under the Patient Model to create a new plan
- 2. From the Base Plan drop down menu choose the Plan Template that should be used and then click OK



- 3. Open the new plan and check that all plan parameters have been applied as expected (pay special attention to *explicit points* as described above)
- 4. Make any changes necessary within plan and then proceed with planning from this starting point
- 5. If used well, you should be able to review the plan, make a few minor edits, and be at the point of running feasibility & optimization much faster than when starting from scratch

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