

OET Case Notes

Medicine · Proficient · Discharge letter · to General Practitioner

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Medicine — Discharge to the GP after a Heart Attack

THE CASE NOTES

Patient: Mr Raymond Okafor, 59 years old, taxi driver

Admission: 5-day admission with central chest pain; diagnosed non-ST-elevation myocardial infarction (NSTEMI)

Procedure: Coronary angiogram + drug-eluting stent to right coronary artery, day 2; uncomplicated

Progress: Pain-free since day 2; mobilising fully; echocardiogram — preserved LV function

Discharge medication: Aspirin 75 mg OD, ticagrelor 90 mg BD (12 months), atorvastatin 80 mg ON, bisoprolol 2.5 mg OD, ramipril 2.5 mg OD

Medical history: Hypertension, ex-smoker (quit on admission), BMI 29

Follow-up: Cardiac rehabilitation referred; cardiology review in 6 weeks; GP to check renal function/BP in 2 weeks

Advice given: Not to drive for 4 weeks (DVLA); dual antiplatelet importance explained

Task: Write a discharge letter to the patient's GP, Dr Helen Pryce, summarising the admission and the ongoing management required in primary care.

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WHAT TO INCLUDE

+ Diagnosis (NSTEMI) and the stent procedure

The GP needs the headline event and what was done to manage future care and medication.

+ The full discharge medication list, especially dual antiplatelet duration

Ticagrelor for 12 months is the single most safety-critical hand-over item — stopping it early risks stent thrombosis.

+ The two follow-up actions for the GP: renal/BP check in 2 weeks

A discharge letter must make the recipient's required actions explicit and time-bound.

+ Driving restriction and cardiac rehab referral

Decision-relevant for the GP and the patient's safety; both belong in the closing.

WHAT TO LEAVE OUT

– Day-by-day inpatient observations

Summarise the course in one line. Transcribing it wastes words and weakens Conciseness & Clarity.

– Occupation as a stand-alone fact

Only mention the taxi driving if you tie it to the driving restriction; otherwise it is filler.

CRITERION IN FOCUS · CONTENT

Discharge letters are graded heavily on whether the recipient could safely continue care from your letter alone. Omitting the antiplatelet duration or the follow-up timeframe is a Content failure even if the prose is flawless.

Write this letter, then get it marked at writingcorrectionservice.com/oet-writing-services