

OET Case Notes

Nursing · Intermediate · Discharge letter · to Community / District Nurse

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Nursing — Discharge to the Community Nurse after Hip Surgery

THE CASE NOTES

Patient: Mrs Eleanor Brightwell, 82 years old

Admission: Day 8 — fell at home, fractured neck of femur; hemiarthroplasty day 1

Wound: Lateral hip wound, healing well, clips in situ — community nurse to remove on day 14

Mobility: Mobilising with a frame and once-daily physiotherapy; needs supervision on stairs

Medication: Apixaban 2.5 mg BD (until day 28 for VTE prophylaxis); paracetamol regular; senna

Medical history: Osteoporosis, hypertension, mild cognitive impairment

Nutrition / skin: Reduced appetite; Waterlow score raised — pressure-area care ongoing; intact skin currently

Social: Lives alone in a bungalow; daughter visits daily; package of care being arranged

Task: Write a discharge letter to the community nurse outlining the ongoing wound care, medication and monitoring required at home.

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WHAT TO INCLUDE

+ Wound status and the clip removal date (day 14)

A concrete, time-bound nursing action the recipient must perform — exactly what a hand-over letter exists to convey.

+ Apixaban with its stop date (day 28)

VTE prophylaxis with an end-point is decision-critical; the community nurse monitors and must know when it ends.

+ Mobility status, falls risk and pressure-area care

Ongoing nursing needs that shape the home visits. Skin integrity and a raised Waterlow score justify continued monitoring.

+ Lives alone with mild cognitive impairment

Directly affects medication compliance and safety at home, so it earns inclusion.

WHAT TO LEAVE OUT

– Operative technique and implant details

Not needed for community nursing care; this is information for the orthopaedic record, not the district nurse.

– The daughter's visit schedule beyond a brief mention

One line on the support network is enough; detail here is social colour that costs Conciseness & Clarity.

CRITERION IN FOCUS · GENRE & STYLE

Nursing hand-over letters are graded on whether they read as one professional briefing another — concrete tasks, dates and monitoring, not a narrative. A discharge letter that drifts into storytelling loses Genre & Style marks.

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