

# 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.

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