

# 3 Hospital admissions

## LANGUAGE

### 1 Grammar

Choose the correct option to complete the sentences.

- 1 The patient *is arriving / arrives / arrived* at 9.45 p.m. last night.
- 2 We *didn't called / didn't call / calling* an ambulance, because it wasn't necessary.
- 3 Did you *catch / caught / caught* your cold at school?
- 4 I *walked / am walking / was walking* when the dog attacked me.
- 5 **A** Did she interview the patient? **B** Yes, she *did / interviewed / do*.
- 6 What were you doing *while / when / during* you broke your leg?
- 7 She *didn't / wasn't / were* concentrating while she was driving.
- 8 They *were / was / been* in a fight.

### 2 Key words from the unit

Complete the sentences with the words from the list.

- 1 A triage nurse makes an initial \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2 A snake bite can be \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3 Sometimes it is difficult to read \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4 Receptionists make \_\_\_\_\_ for patients.
- 5 Arms and legs are called \_\_\_\_\_.
- 6 The doctor decides on the correct \_\_\_\_\_.
- 7 The patient is \_\_\_\_\_ to certain antibiotics.
- 8 Go into the \_\_\_\_\_ to get undressed.

cubicle  
life-threatening  
prescriptions  
treatment  
allergic  
assessment  
appointments  
limbs

## READING AND VOCABULARY

There are three ways to admit a patient to hospital: either as an outpatient, a day patient or an inpatient. An outpatient needs treatment but not a bed. A day patient needs a bed for a few hours, but doesn't need to stay overnight. An inpatient needs at least one overnight stay.

Hospitals need to plan for patient admissions. They have to predict how many beds they will need. It is quite easy to predict referrals from doctors like General Practitioners, but a larger number of patients come through A&E, and it is more difficult to plan for them.

It is very important to keep accurate records of patients' treatment, from admission through to discharge and follow-up. These include personal details such as marital status, occupation and next of kin, as well as medical history such as past illnesses and treatments, family history and lifestyle.

Medical staff record all treatments, test results and correspondence. They try to record these things at the time they happen. This is important, and not only to ensure the correct treatment. Medical records are sometimes used for research, or in a court of law.

### 3 Comprehension

According to the text, are the following statements true (T) or false (F)?

- 1 Admissions to hospital are all inpatients. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 There are more emergency admissions than referrals. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 Hospital records stop at discharge. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 Personal details are part of medical records. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 Staff should record treatments at the end of their shift. \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 Only medical staff can look at medical records. \_\_\_\_\_

### 4 Vocabulary

Match the words or phrases 1–7 to a suitable definition a–g.  
The first one is done for you.

- |                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| 1 <i>overnight stay</i> | a when a patient is sent to hospital                          |
| 2 admission             | b normal, everyday behaviour                                  |
| 3 referral              | c treatment after a patient has been discharged from hospital |
| 4 discharge             | d <i>time as an inpatient</i>                                 |
| 5 follow-up             | e letters, emails and messages                                |
| 6 correspondence        | f the moment when a patient enters hospital                   |
| 7 lifestyle             | g when a patient is told they can leave hospital              |

### 5 Further vocabulary practice

Underline the correct words in italics to complete the sentences.

The first one is done for you.

- 1 We don't need beds for out / *in* / *day* patients.
- 2 Who is your *family history* / *next of kin* / *occupation*?
- 3 What is your *marital status* / *past illnesses* / *personal details*?
- 4 The new patient is a *referral* / *admission* / *discharge* from Cardiology.
- 5 We need you to come back to the hospital for *discharge* / *follow-up* / *admission* tests.
- 6 If you don't stop smoking and drinking so much, your *lifestyle* / *test results* / *medical history* may kill you.
- 7 After you sign the *discharge* / *correspondence* / *record* form, you can go home.

Read the example summary of an admission and use the information in the box to write a similar summary.

Jim Grady is a 58-year-old man. He is a retired farmer. His wife is dead and his son is his next of kin. Mr Grady was bitten by a snake while walking with his dog, and admitted to hospital as a day patient. He has a medical history of high blood pressure and he smokes 20 cigarettes per day.

Surname: *Ghazi*

First name: *Mariam*

Reason for admission: *Fever*

Age: 6 months      Gender: F

Next of kin: *Father Mohammed*

Medical history: *Cough at 6 weeks, breathing difficulties at 2 months*

Family history: Asthma and allergies

[illegible]