

# OCCUPATIONAL ENGLISH TEST

## WRITING SUB-TEST: NURSING

**TIME ALLOWED:**            **READING TIME: 5 MINUTES**  
**WRITING TIME: 40 MINUTES**

Read the case notes below and complete the writing task which follows.

### Notes:

You are a practice nurse for a general practitioner and you are preparing a patient for a day colonoscopy procedure in hospital next week. Your practice is seeing the patient for the first time.

**Patient:** Mr Adam White (DOB: 25 July, 1958)

**Address:** 20 Leonard St, Lakeside

**Social Background:** Single. Lives alone. IT consultant. Eats out a lot; entertains; heavy drinker (alcohol); rarely smokes

**1 August 2018**

#### Reason for presenting:

Results of bowel cancer screen test – positive. Pt wants a colonoscopy.

**Medications:** Occasional paracetamol, rare ibuprofen (for pain in L leg).

**Allergies:** No known allergies (NKA), sensitive to codeine.

**Medical History:** **2014** Bowel issues – constipation ?due to poor diet.

**2015** PSA, FBE – all ✓, discussed diet, not overweight, Pt sees no reason to worry.

**2016** Very bad cold, ?flu. Viral – given usual flu advice, no antibiotics.

**Family History:** Grandfather (paternal): ?cancer bowel, ?had colostomy.

Father: Cancer colon (1997), recent resection, anastomosis, no problems since.

**Dr Consultation:** Pt complaining of bowel changes & notification of bowel tests – abnormal.

Very worried due to family history.

Colonoscopy in 1 wk. Explained procedure. Bowel prep prescribed.

Pathology ordered.

Recommended – discussions with nurse re pre-procedure assessment & management.

R/V Dr & Nurse 1 wk post-procedure.

**Nurse Discussions:** Explained pre-procedure assessment and management.

Letter to day surgery nurse at clinic where procedure will take place.

- Nursing Management:**
- Observations – T: 37°C, P: 88, BP: 145/95 (notified Dr), R: 16
  - Pathology – FBE, U&Es, LFTs (will receive results pre-procedure)
  - Wt: 80kg, Ht: 190cm
  - Immediate cessation of smoking and reduction of alcohol intake advised
  - Previous anaesthetics – no issues → Explained will be heavily sedated, not full anaesthetic
  - NKA. Sensitive to codeine. Alert sticker attached to paperwork → Advised to notify all staff, but unlikely to need that amount of analgesic
  - Explained procedure – pre & post expectations to patient
  - Pt signed endoscopy (colonoscopy) consent form
  - Booklet given – procedure, risks, pain, bleeding, etc.
  - Pre-procedure: Day before – light breakfast then clear fluids only  
Bowel prep instructions – fast midnight before procedure
  - Admission booklet explained → Pt arranged hospital pickup
  - Discussed importance of healthy diet & exercise

#### Plan:

- R/V 1 wk post-procedure Dr & Nurse
- R/V progress, further counselling, other options if necessary. Results of colonoscopy will determine course of action.

### Writing Task:

Using the information given in the case notes, write a letter to the Day Surgery Nurse at Surgicentre, 100 Plain Road, Lakeside, outlining the patient's relevant history and current circumstances, including your pre-procedure assessment and management.

#### In your answer:

- **Expand the relevant notes into complete sentences**
- **Do not use note form**
- **Use letter format**

**The body of the letter should be approximately 180–200 words.**