

WRITING SUB-TEST – TEST BOOKLET

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

You must write your answer for the Writing sub-test in the **Writing Answer Booklet**.

You must **NOT** remove OET material from the test room.

WRITING SUB-TEST: MEDICINE
TIME ALLOWED: READING TIME: 5 MINUTES
WRITING TIME: 40 MINUTES

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

Notes:

Assume that today's date is 17 June 2018

You are a doctor in the Outpatients Clinic of Northwood Hospital. You see a patient who is complaining of a painful hand.

PATIENT DETAILS:

Name: Betty Weston
Marital status: Divorced
Residence: 59 Atlantic Avenue, Northwood
DOB: 12 Feb 1964 (55 years)
Next of kin: Mother (80 years)

Social background:

Occupation: supermarket manager (job: 'v tiring':
pt. aware that obesity is aggravating factor), long hours, 'on feet all day'
Lives with mother (is caregiver) & 2 of 3 children (sons aged 23 & 25), daughter: married, lives nearby
Diet: high-fat, high-calorie, irregular meals (often binges)
Leisure: TV, reading - no sports/physical activity

Past medical history:

Type 2 diabetes mellitus (2012), hypothyroidism (2015)
Obesity
Arthrosis
Surgeries: 1999 - appendectomy
2014 – cholecystectomy (cholecystitis diag. late 2013)
Obstetric history: G3P3A0L3
Allergies: none
Non smoker
No alcohol

Outpatient clinic: 10 Jun 2018

Presenting problem:

Numbness/tingling in thumb, index & middle finger of R hand (3 wks' duration), sleep disturbed by pain (relieved by moving fingers)

Difficulty unscrewing jar tops and gripping glass/cup, objects slip from fingers

Pt. denies trauma to R hand or pain in other joints

Physical examination:

VS: BP: 132/84 mmHg, P: 78 beats/minute,

T: 36°C, RR: 32 breaths/minute

Body Mass Index (BMI): 32 kg/m²

Cardiovascular: normal heart sounds, no murmurs

R hand: no swelling, ↓grip strength

Phalen's manoeuvre & Tinel's sign: both positive

Diagnosis: Carpal tunnel syndrome

Medications: Metformin 1500mg/day PO divided q8hr with meal (diabetes mellitus)

Enalapril 20mg PO qDay (diabetes mellitus)

Levothyroxine 25mcg PO qDay (hypothyroidism)

Paracetamol 500mg PO, prn

17 Jun 2018

Review of symptoms:

Fatigue, cold intolerance, constipation

Discharge plan: Conservative management: night-time wrist splinting (for >3 weeks)

Electromyography (EMG), nerve conduction study (NCS) → stabilise severity/exclude other neurologic diagnosis

↓BMI

Refer to physical therapy for aerobic fitness & weight-loss program (avoid exercises that cause wrist strain)

Continue baseline medication

Thyroid Stimulating Hormone (TSH) blood levels: assess need to ↑Levothyroxine

Refer to occupational therapy for wrist splint (custom- made, in neutral position) & ergonomics assessment

Writing Task:

Using the information given in the case notes, write a referral letter to Ms Goody, a community occupational therapist, for further management of Betty's condition. Address the letter to Ms Alison Goody, Occupational Therapist, Northwood Community Health Centre, Northwood.

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.

Any answers recorded here will not be marked.

BLANK