

TAKING A PATIENT HISTORY

Nurse: Good morning, Mrs. Stevenson. I'm Mary and I'll be admitting you to the ward today. Please follow me to the Patient Admission Office so I can get some paperwork done.

Patient: Good morning, Mary. Yes, sure.

Nurse: Thank you. Please have a seat. You can put your cane on the edge of the chair if you like.

Patient: Thank you

Nurse: How are you doing today?

Patient: Not bad. Thank you.

Nurse: That's good. Now, I'm going to take down some details before you're admitted to the Cardiac Unit today. I'd like to ask you a few questions, if it's okay with you.

Patient: Yes, of course. It's okay.

Nurse: Great. Let's get started. Would you mind if I check out some details first?

Patient: Not at all.

Nurse: I'd like to check your name and date of birth if it matches from the one written on your bracelet.

Patient: Sure. It's Diana Stevenson and my date of birth is the fourth of June nineteen twenty-three. Quite a while ago, isn't it?

Nurse: Not so long ago, actually. Time goes very fast when you're busy, doesn't it? Now, can you tell me why you're here today?

Patient: Well, I have high blood pressure and I'm here for some tests. My Cardiologist asked me to come here to see what's going on.

Nurse: OK. Now I'd like to ask about your medical history. Have you had any serious illnesses in the past?

Patient: Yes, I had a mild heart attack last year. It was quite frightening.

Nurse: Yes, I'm sure it was. Now, what about surgical history? Have you ever had any operations?

Patient: Luckily, I've never undergone any operations.

Nurse: Lucky indeed. Now, are you currently taking any medications?

Patient: Yes, my cardiologist prescribed some blood pressure medications after my heart attack.

Nurse: Do you know what they're called?

Patient: I'm not sure, but I brought them with me in my bag. I take them in the morning with breakfast. Here, let me show you.

Nurse: So you're taking Metoprolol. Do you have any allergies to any medications?

Patient: Not that I'm aware of.

Nurse: What about food allergies? Is there any food that doesn't agree with you?

Patient: Not that I know of.

Nurse: Good. Are you allergic to sticking plaster or iodine?

Patient: No, I've never had any problems before.

Nurse: OK. Can you tell me the name of your next of kin?

Patient: Yes. It's my grandson, Jacob. Jacob Stevenson.

Nurse: Thank you. That's all I need to know. I'll leave you for a moment while I get the admitting doctor to come and see you. Are you comfortable?

Patient: Yes, I'm fine. Thank you

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During Patient Admission

- What information might you need to collect in this situation?
- Why might this information be important?
- What strategies have you found useful when greeting a patient for the first time?

Mary, the Ward Nurse, is admitting Mrs. Stevenson. Answer the following questions:

- Is Mrs. Stevenson mobile?
- Which hospital unit is she being admitted to?
- Why is Mrs. Stevenson in hospital?
- What happened to her last year?
- Does she have any allergies?
- Does she have a relative who can be contacted during an emergency? Give details of the contact person.
- What are active listening strategies?
- Why do you think they are important?

Try to get the patient's information using the following questions and fill out the form with the corresponding detail: (ROLE PLAY)

- Can you tell me your full name, please?
- Can you tell me why you're here today?
- Have you had any serious illnesses in the past?
- Have you ever had any operations?
- Now, are you taking any medications at the moment?
- Do you have any allergies to medications?
- Can you tell me the name of your next of kin?

Patient Admission Form

- Full name:
- DOB:
- Reason for admission:
- Medical history:
- Surgical history:
- Medication:
- Allergies:
- Next of kin: