

HOW IT WORKS:

Answer each question on some aspect of your work experience, then pull your answers together into a paragraph of up to 1000 characters.

First you need to choose a case study to analyse in detail. Think of any interesting cases (diseases/conditions/treatments) you have come across during nursing-related work experience.

- **These do not have to involve exotic diseases or dramatic treatments.**
- **Very common situations can provide excellent material.**

Look through the boxes below to get a sense of how you will be analysing your chosen case study, then use this to help you select one to focus on. In selecting your case study it is a good idea to prioritise examples where:

- **you were able to find out some key details about the patient**
- **you witnessed nurse/patient interaction or significant interaction within the medical team (e.g. during team meetings)**

Let's start by analysing what you did...

What did you notice originally about the patient/client and their needs/medical condition. How were these dealt with?

Why did this grab your attention?



What did you learn about the history of this case? Did you ask any questions or pick any details up about the patient/client and their needs or their medical condition?

Now let's dig deeper...

What can you find out about the scientific background to this disease, condition or treatment? These links could be helpful:

- The NHS database of medical conditions and treatments aimed at the general public: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/>
- A database of medical information and articles for both patients and health professionals: <https://patient.info/>

What can you find out about the role of nurses in relation to this disease/condition/treatment?

Try a general internet search for "UK a nurse's role in..." and the particular condition (e.g. a nurse's role in diabetes). Make sure any articles you select are from the UK.

AND/OR

Try the following sources:

- Royal College of Nursing searchable database of publications and guidelines: <http://www.rcn.org.uk/development/publications>
- Royal College of Midwives news: <https://www.rcm.org.uk/news-views/RCM-opinion>

Search for articles which link to the topic of your case study.

- Experiment both with broad search terms (e.g. "dementia" or "dementia NHS") and more specific ones (e.g. "advances in dementia treatment").
- Read them carefully and pick out key details to help you complete the question.

Are there elements of the Principles of Nursing Practice that you can identify from this interaction?

There are eight Principles, developed by the Royal College of Nursing, which underpin the work nurses do. Search RCN Principles of Nursing Practice and download the PDF, then:

- Read through the eight principles
- Select one or two which are particularly relevant to your case
- Explain what your case has taught you about the importance of this principle.

How is this issue dealt with by the NHS as a whole (which healthcare professionals can be involved and how? What is the role of nurses within this?)

Does this issue relate to any wider healthcare trends (e.g obesity, ageing population)?

Use the following sources to answer these two questions:

Nursing/Midwifery specific sources

- RCN publications and guidelines: <http://www.rcn.org.uk/development/publications>
- BMJ's Evidence Based Nursing blog: <http://blogs.bmj.com/ebn/>
- Royal College of Midwives news: <https://www.rcm.org.uk/news-views/RCM-opinion>

More general medical sources

- BBC health news page: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health/>
- BMJ opinion pieces: <https://www.bmj.com/news/opinion>

