Healthcare

VOCABULARY PRACTICE
INTERMEDIATE | B1-B2

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Tick the correct category for each healthcare word.

Word | Service | Professional | Process | Outcome

1 GP surgery [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]
2 specialist [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]
3 diagnosis [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]
4 recovery [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]
5 referral [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]
6 waiting list [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]
7 consultant [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]
8 rehabilitation [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

2 Correct the mistake in each sentence.

1 She registered at GP of surgery. _____
2 He saw specialist about his knee. _____
3 The doctor gave diagnosis quickly. _____
4 Her recovery take several weeks. _____
5 He needed referral to a specialist. _____
6 She was on waiting of list for surgery. _____
7 The consultant explain the results. _____
8 He started rehabilitation of after the accident. _____

3 Choose the more suitable description.

1 For a local clinic where a family doctor works: GP surgery / hospital ward.
2 For a doctor focused on a particular area of medicine: specialist / general assistant.
3 For identifying what illness someone has: diagnosis / treatment plan.
4 For the process of returning to health: recovery / relapse.
5 For being sent to see another doctor: referral / self-diagnosis.
6 For a queue of people waiting for treatment: waiting list / appointment book.

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4 Complete the reports with words from the box.

consultant | diagnosis | GP surgery | recovery | referral | rehabilitation | specialist | waiting list

Report A: A patient registered at a local 1 _____ and later received a 2 _____ to a heart 3 _____.
Report B: The 4 _____ confirmed the 5 _____ after several tests.
Report C: After surgery, the patient began 6 _____, and doctors expected a full 7 _____ within a few months.
Report D: She remained on a long 8 _____ before her operation.

5 Read the text and answer the questions briefly.

Why waiting times matter

Health researchers consistently find that waiting times significantly affect patient outcomes, since delayed diagnosis or treatment can allow a condition to worsen before intervention begins. Patients referred to a specialist often wait weeks or months, particularly for non-urgent conditions, placing considerable strain on both the individual and the wider healthcare system. Some health systems have introduced targets requiring GP surgeries to see urgent cases quickly, reserving longer waiting lists for conditions unlikely to worsen significantly during the delay. Critics argue that even non-urgent waiting can cause unnecessary suffering, and that resourcing remains the fundamental constraint behind persistent waiting lists.

1 What do health researchers consistently find about waiting times? _____
2 What can delayed diagnosis or treatment allow to happen? _____
3 How long do patients referred to a specialist often wait? _____
4 What have some health systems introduced? _____
5 What do critics argue about even non-urgent waiting? _____
6 What do critics say remains the fundamental constraint? _____

6 Rewrite each phrase using the word in capitals.

1 She was sent to see another doctor. REFERRAL _____
2 Doctors identified what illness he had. DIAGNOSIS _____
3 He worked to return to full health after surgery. REHABILITATION _____
4 She waited a long time for her operation. WAITING LIST _____

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OVER TO YOU

Write a 100-120 word account of how a healthcare system could reduce waiting times for patients. Include specific proposals.

[ ] Use at least ten target expressions. [ ] Include polite, precise wording. [ ] Organise the account clearly.

ANSWER KEY

1 Categories

1 Service 2 Professional 3 Process 4 Outcome 5 Process 6 Service 7 Professional 8 Process

2 Corrections

1 registered at a GP surgery 2 saw a specialist 3 gave a diagnosis quickly 4 recovery takes several weeks
5 needed a referral 6 on a waiting list 7 consultant explained the results 8 started rehabilitation

3 Suitable descriptions

1 GP surgery 2 specialist 3 diagnosis 4 recovery 5 referral 6 waiting list

4 Reports

1 GP surgery 2 referral 3 specialist 4 consultant 5 diagnosis 6 rehabilitation 7 recovery 8 waiting list

5 Reading - suggested answers

1 That they significantly affect patient outcomes.
2 Allow a condition to worsen before intervention begins.
3 Weeks or months.
4 Targets requiring GP surgeries to see urgent cases quickly.
5 That it can cause unnecessary suffering.
6 Resourcing.

6 Rewriting - possible answers

1 She received a referral. 2 Doctors made a diagnosis.
3 He underwent rehabilitation. 4 She was on a waiting list.

Over to you

Answers will vary. Check range, respectful register and clear organisation.