

## Read the mini case:

A 68-year-old female **was admitted** to the Emergency Department with complaints of shortness of breath and chest tightness. A chest X-ray **was performed**, and bilateral infiltrates **were observed**. Oxygen therapy **was initiated**, and the patient **was monitored** closely. A diagnosis of community-acquired pneumonia **was made**. The patient **was started** on intravenous antibiotics and **was transferred** to the ward.

Have you noticed? **All verbs in bold are in Passive Voice.**

## ◆ Grammar Focus – Passive Voice (Form & Use)

### ✓ Why Use Passive in Medical English?

- To focus on the **action or result**, not the person doing it.
- The **agent** (who does the action) is often:
  - **Unknown**: "The virus **was detected**"
  - **Obvious or irrelevant**: "The patient **was admitted**"
  - **General/standard procedure**: "Blood **was drawn**"

### Forming the Passive Voice:

**Passive = BE + past participle (3rd column)**

Change the verb tense of **be** to match the original tense.

Tense	Active	Passive
Present Simple	The doctor prescribes antibiotics.	Antibiotics <b>are prescribed</b> .
Past Simple	The nurse took vital signs.	Vital signs <b>were taken</b> .
Present Perfect	The lab has confirmed the diagnosis.	The diagnosis <b>has been confirmed</b> .
Future	They will discharge the patient.	The patient <b>will be discharged</b> .
Modal	They should monitor the patient.	The patient <b>should be monitored</b> .

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**NOW YOU.... Rewrite the sentences in the passive voice. Use the correct tense.**  
**Only write the missing passive verb phrase in the blank.**

1. The paramedics brought the patient to the hospital.

➤ The patient \_\_\_\_\_ to the hospital.

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2. The physician prescribed an inhaler.

➤ An inhaler \_\_\_\_\_

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3. The nurses are checking his vital signs. ATTENTION TO THE -ING!

➤ His vital signs \_\_\_\_\_

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4. The lab technician has taken a blood sample.

➤ A blood sample \_\_\_\_\_

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5. They will start IV fluids soon.

➤ IV fluids \_\_\_\_\_ soon.

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6. The team diagnosed her with acute bronchitis.

➤ She \_\_\_\_\_ with acute bronchitis.

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7. They gave him oxygen through a mask.

➤ He \_\_\_\_\_ oxygen through a mask.

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8. The cardiologist might recommend a stress test.

➤ A stress test \_\_\_\_\_.

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9. They are going to transfer the patient to the ICU. ATTENTION TO THE -GOING TO!

➤ The patient \_\_\_\_\_ to the ICU.

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10. The doctor explained the procedure to the family. (*keep the agent*)

➤ The procedure \_\_\_\_\_ to the family **by the doctor**.