

Dilemma 3: The adamant patient

You are a GP, and are called out on a home visit to an 87 year old patient - Mr G. - who you have not met before. From his patient history, you see that he has an existing heart condition.

You find him experiencing severe chest pains and shortness of breath, as well as low blood pressure. During your assessment, he appears to be deteriorating. You judge that he is having a heart attack, and that there is a strong chance he may die soon. You believe the best option would be to admit him to hospital immediately. However, despite extensive explanations from you, Mr G. is adamant he does not want to go to the hospital but wants to stay in his own home.

