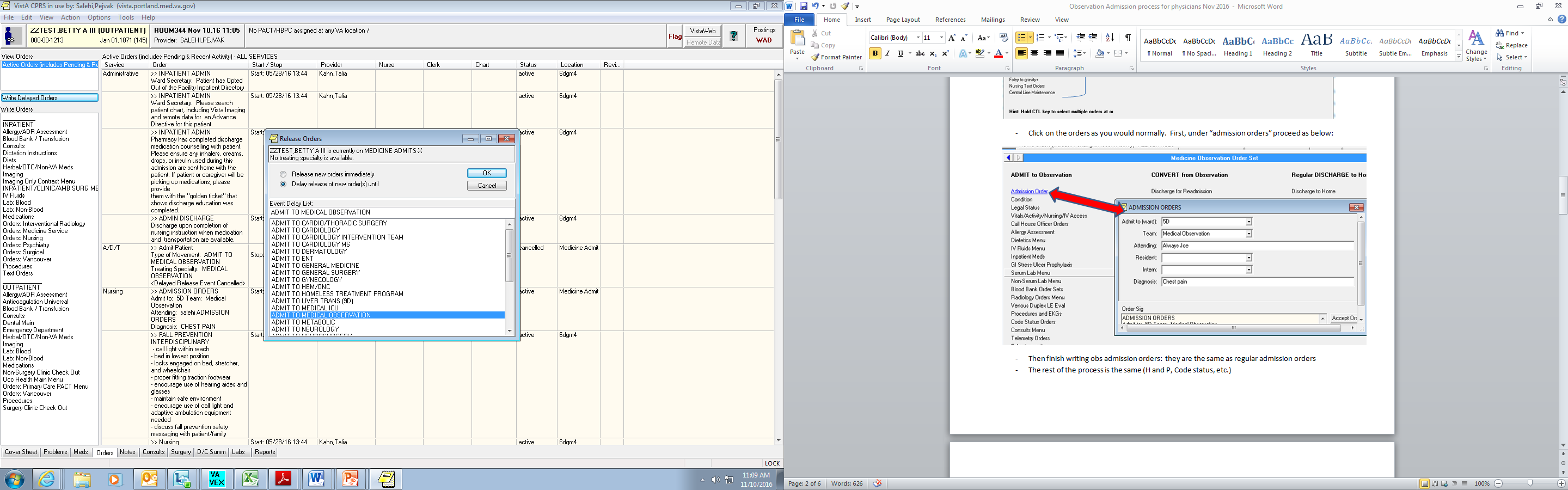
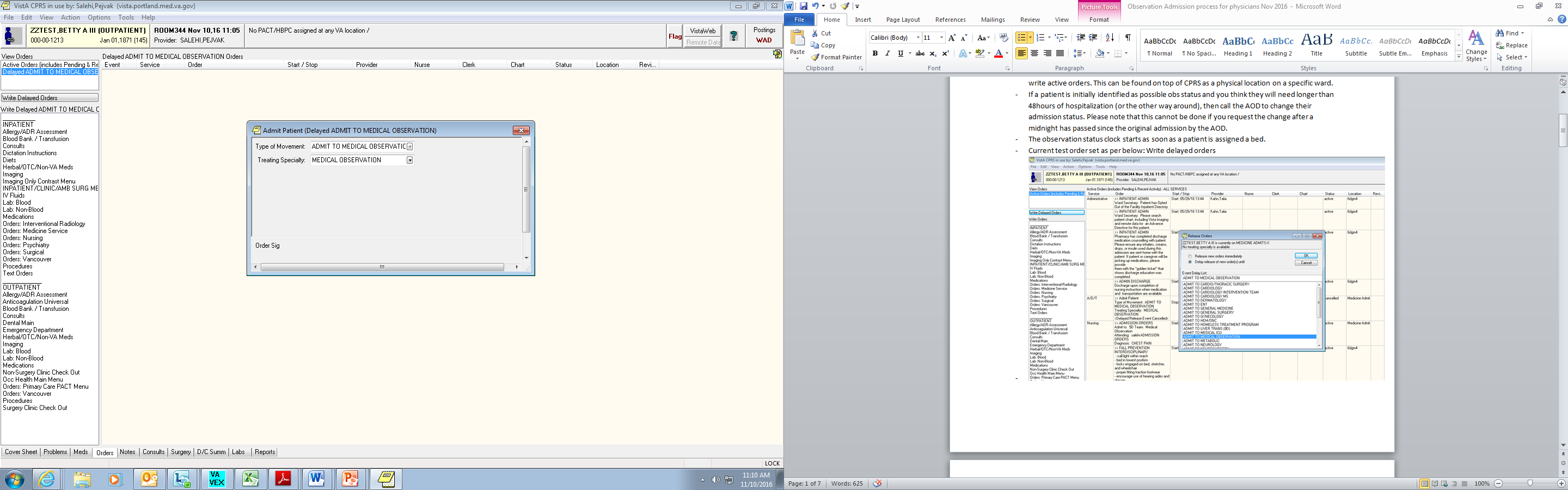
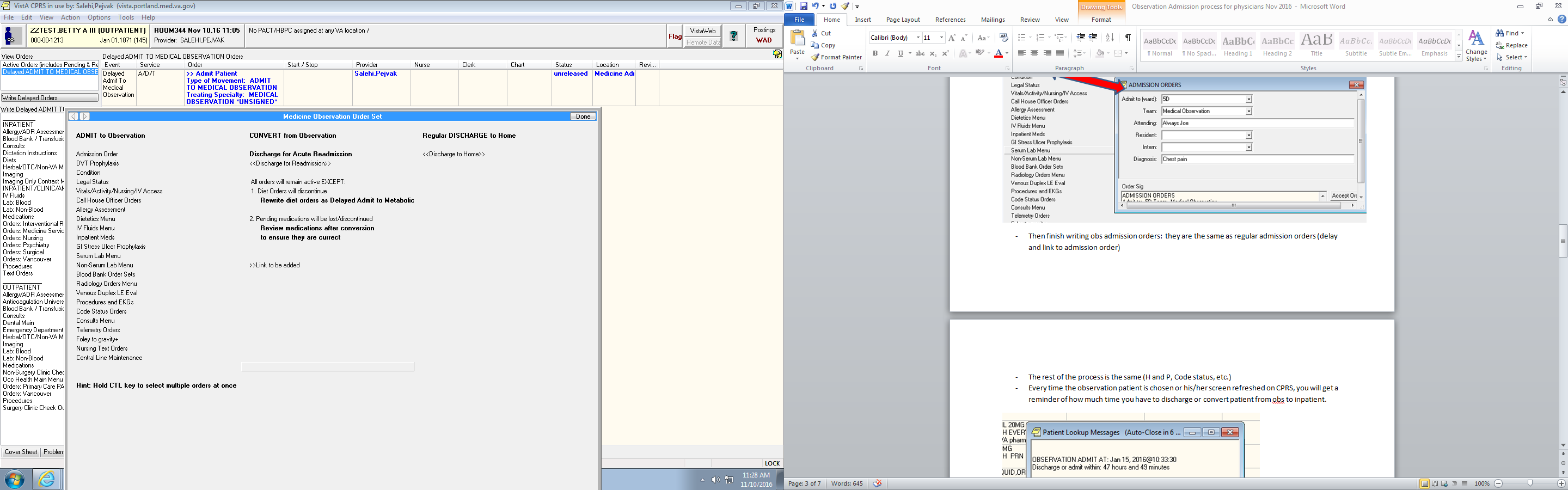
OBSERVATION ADMISSION PROTOCOL

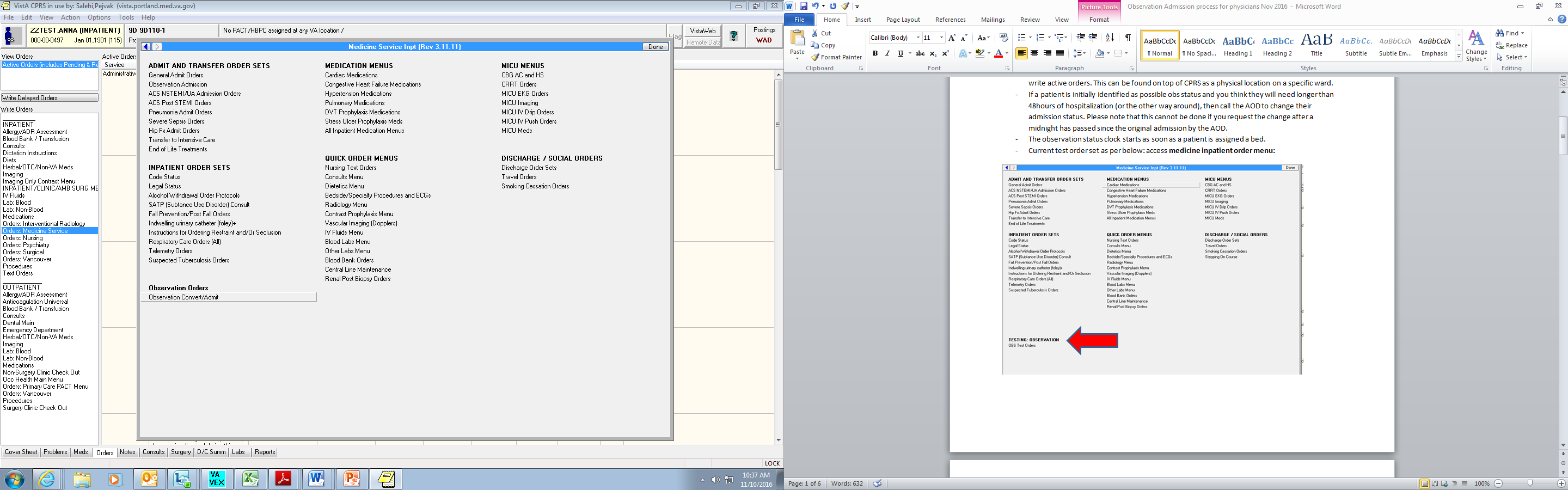
PHYSICIAN PROCESS FOR ADMISSION TO IM WARDS VIRTUAL OBS:

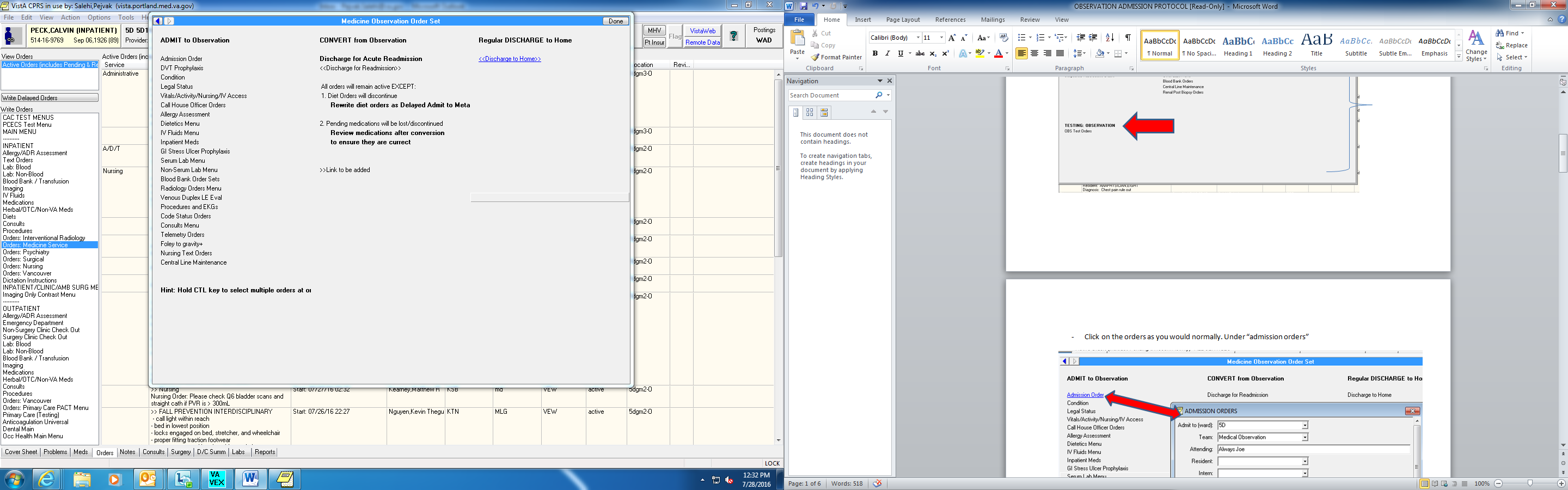
* Patient is usually identified by Triage attending and assigned to CHS or GM team
* Ultimately the team caring for the patient has final say on whether a patient should be admitted to a virtual observation bed or not
  + ABSOLUTE EXCLUSION CRITERIA:
    - Needs placement (obs Midnights do not count towards Medicare hospital length of stay as it is considered an outpatient status)
    - Insulin drip
    - Heparin drip
* Admitted by the AOD and assigned a bed by the MSA (e.g. CHS1-OBS, GM2-OBS, etc.)
* Admitting physician can then write delayed obs admit orders or wait until assigned to a bed to write active orders. This can be found on top of CPRS as a physical location on a specific ward.
* If a patient is initially identified as possible obs status and you think they will need longer than 48hours of hospitalization (or the other way around), then call the AOD to change their admission status. Please note that this cannot be done if you request the change after a midnight has passed since the original admission by the AOD.
* The observation status clock starts as soon as a patient is assigned a bed.
* Current test order set as per below: WRITE DELAYED ORDERS IF NOT ADMITTED YET
* 



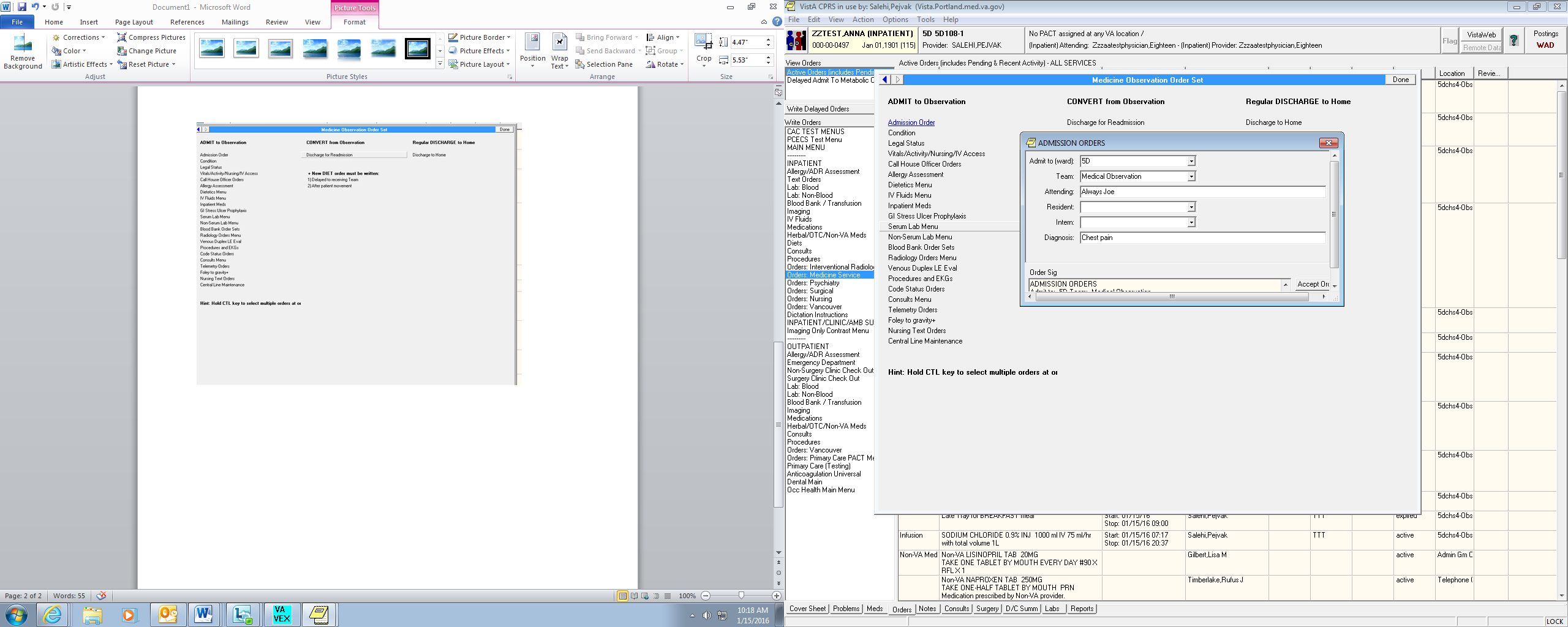


OR ACCESS ORDERS THROUGH MEDICINE SERVICE MENU IF **ALREADY ADMITTED**

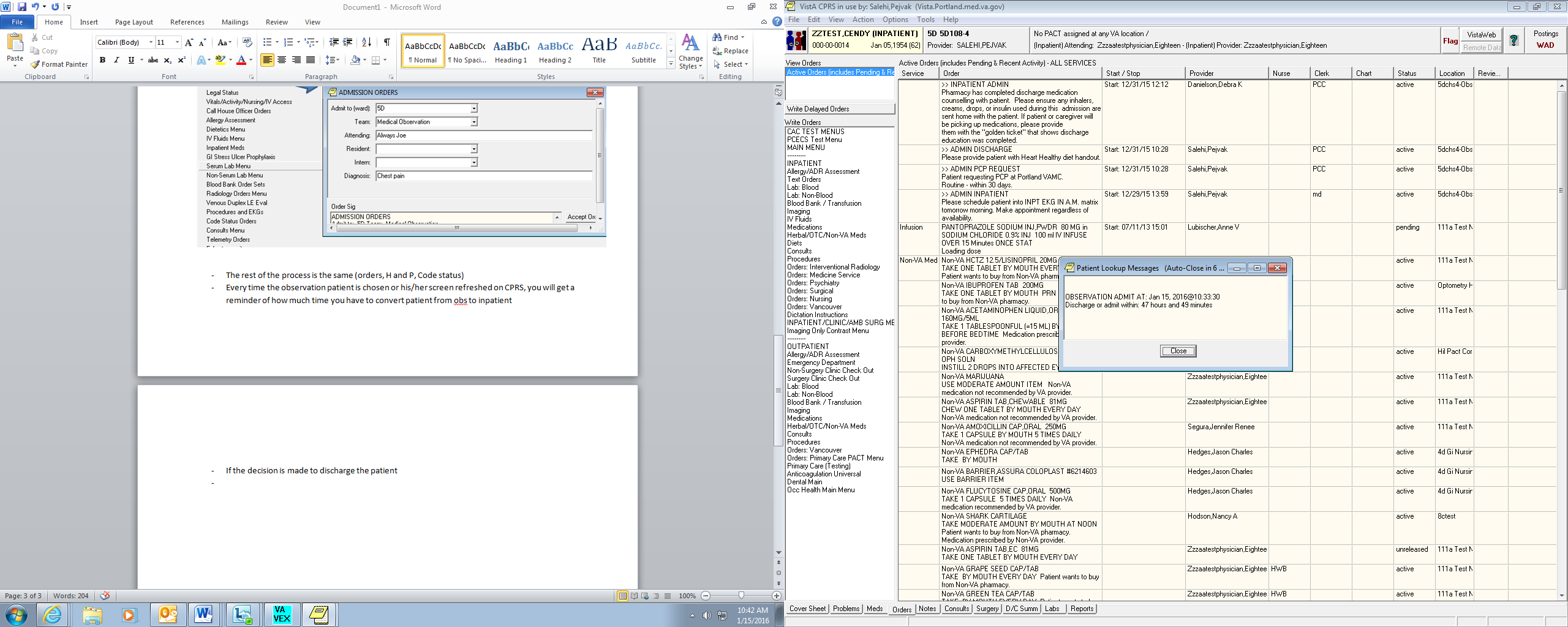




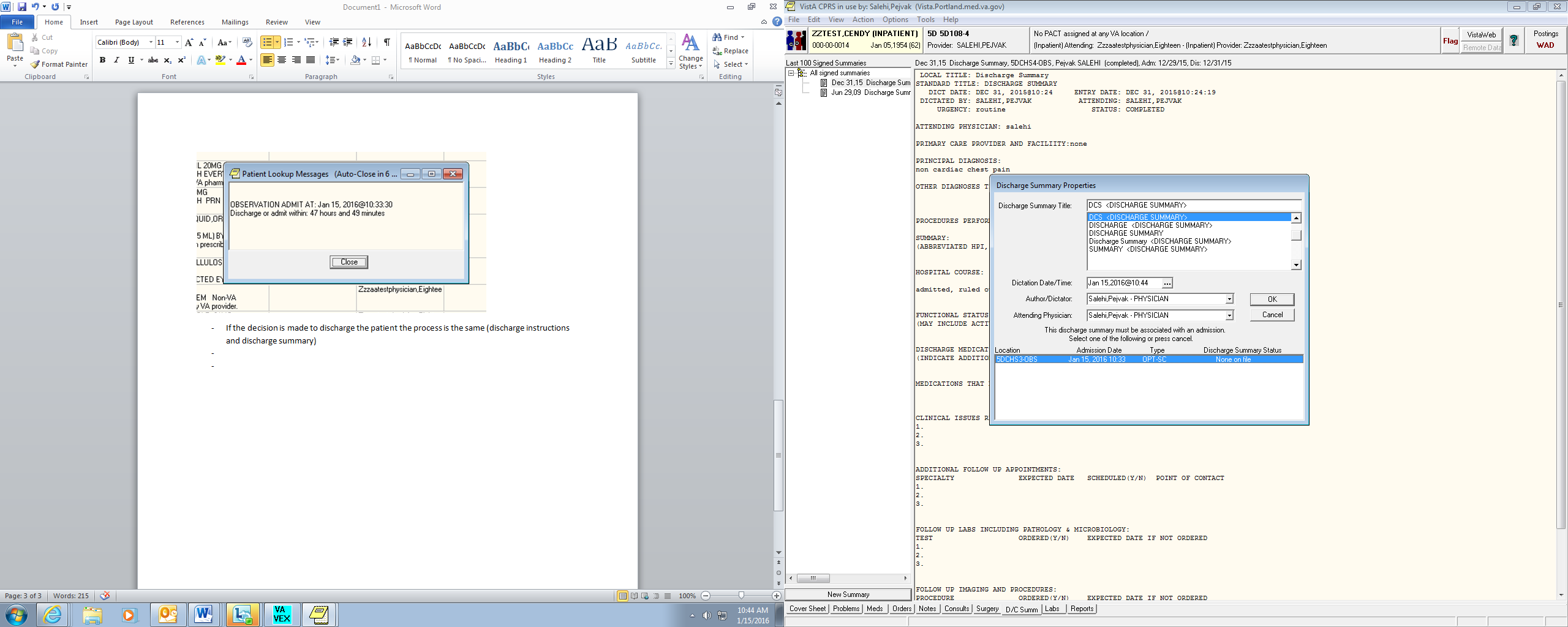
* Click on the orders as you would normally. First, under “admission orders” proceed as below:

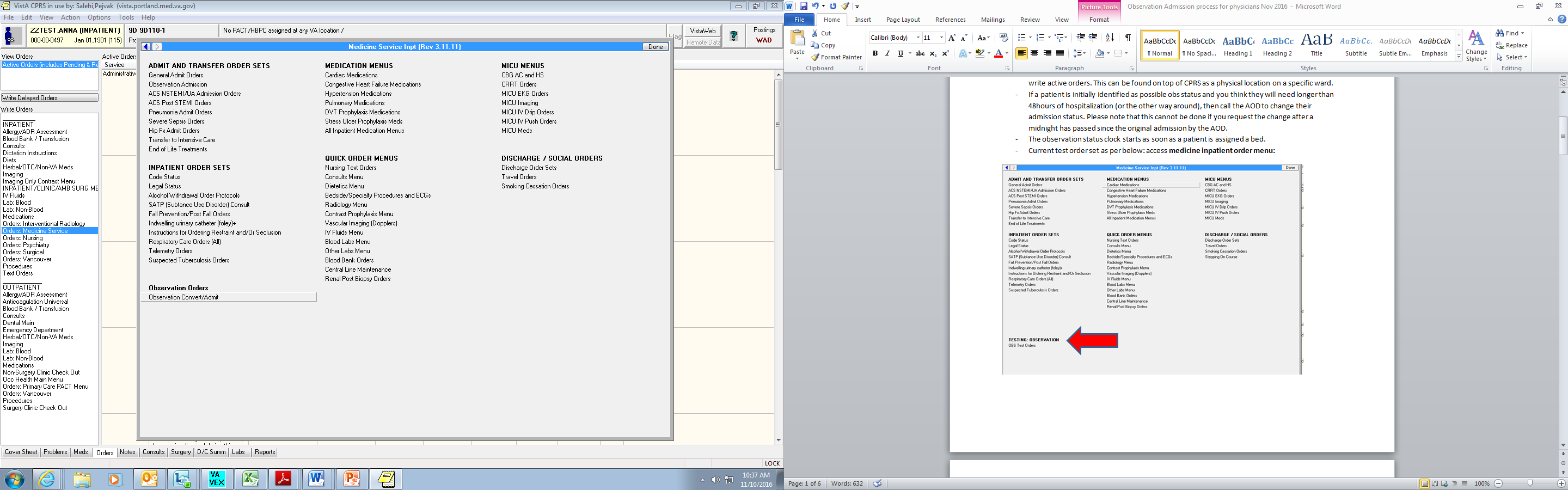


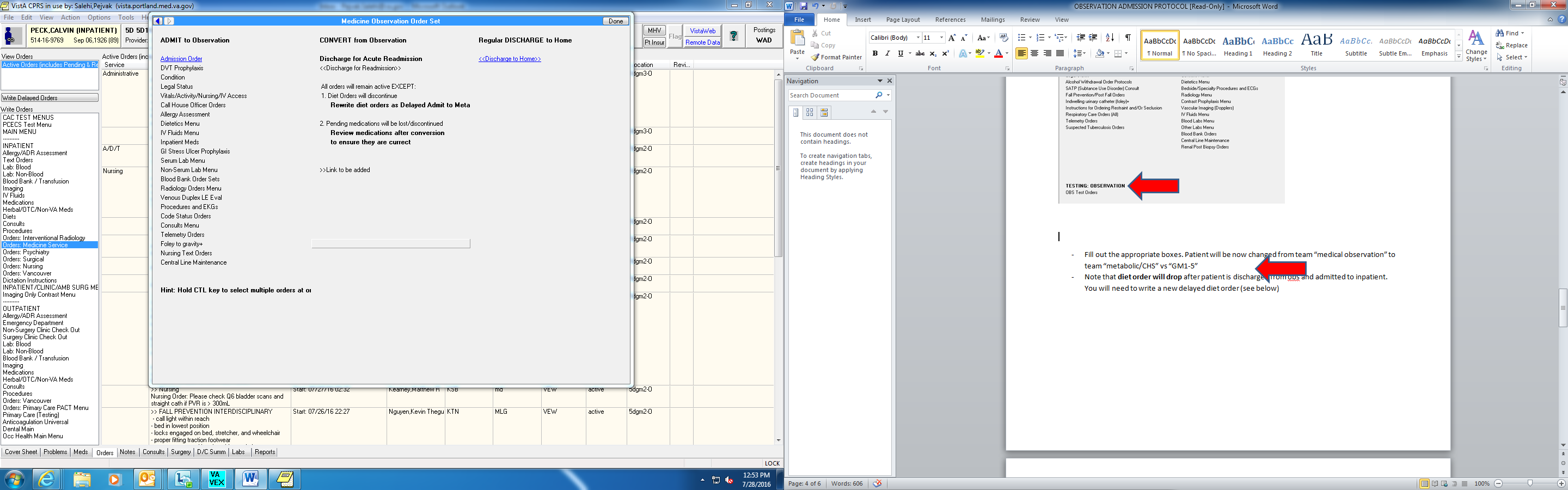
* Choose medical observation as your Team (regardless of being GM or CHS)
* Then finish writing obs admission orders: they are the same as regular admission orders (delay and link to admission order)
* The rest of the process is the same (H and P, Code status, etc.)
* Every time the observation patient is chosen or his/her screen refreshed on CPRS, you will get a reminder of how much time you have to discharge or convert patient from obs to inpatient.



* If the decision is made to discharge the patient, the process is the same (discharge instructions, UAP and discharge summary)
* The D/C summary would be for the admission to CHS-OBS (e.g. 5DCHS3-OBS, which would be different from 5DCHS3-O) or GM-OBS (e.g. 6DGM1-OBS).



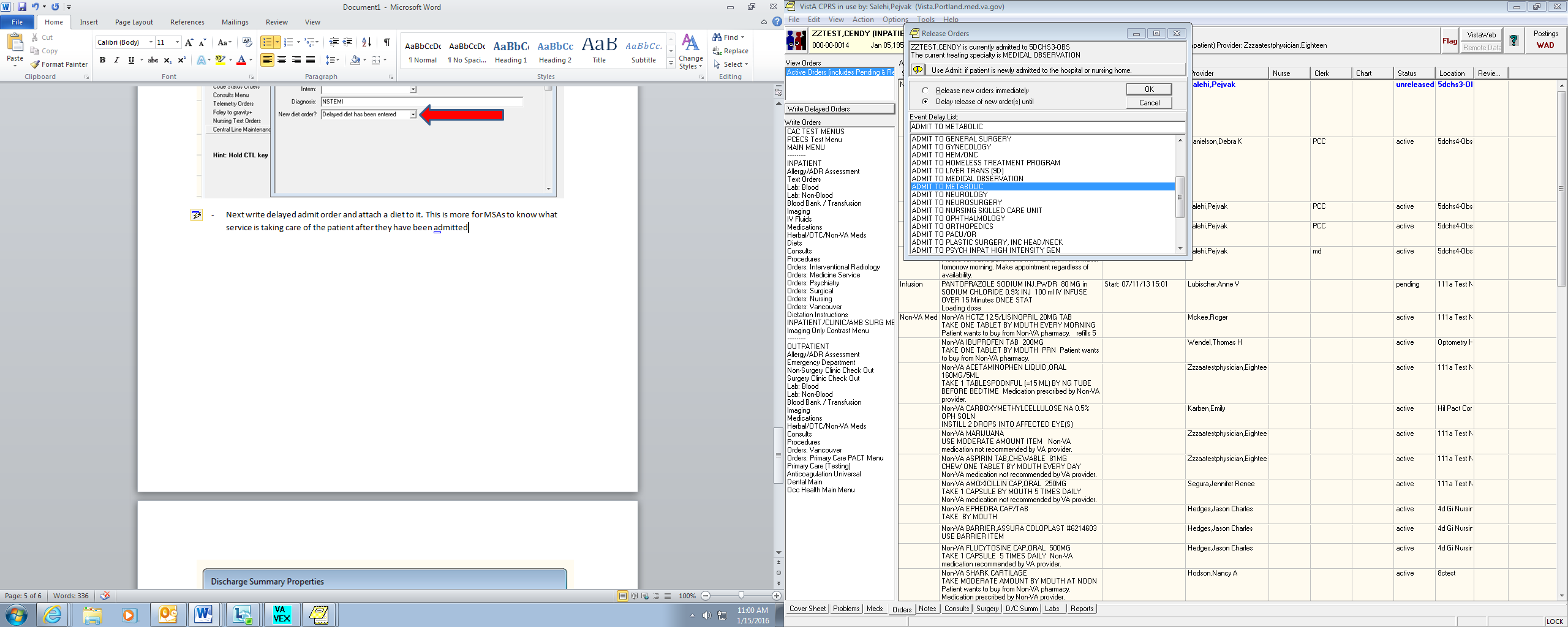
* Decision for conversion to inpatient should be made during **day time hours** in order to avoid late night conversion to inpatient (or discharges) by the cross covering physician.
* For **conversion** to inpatient use the same obs order set:
* 

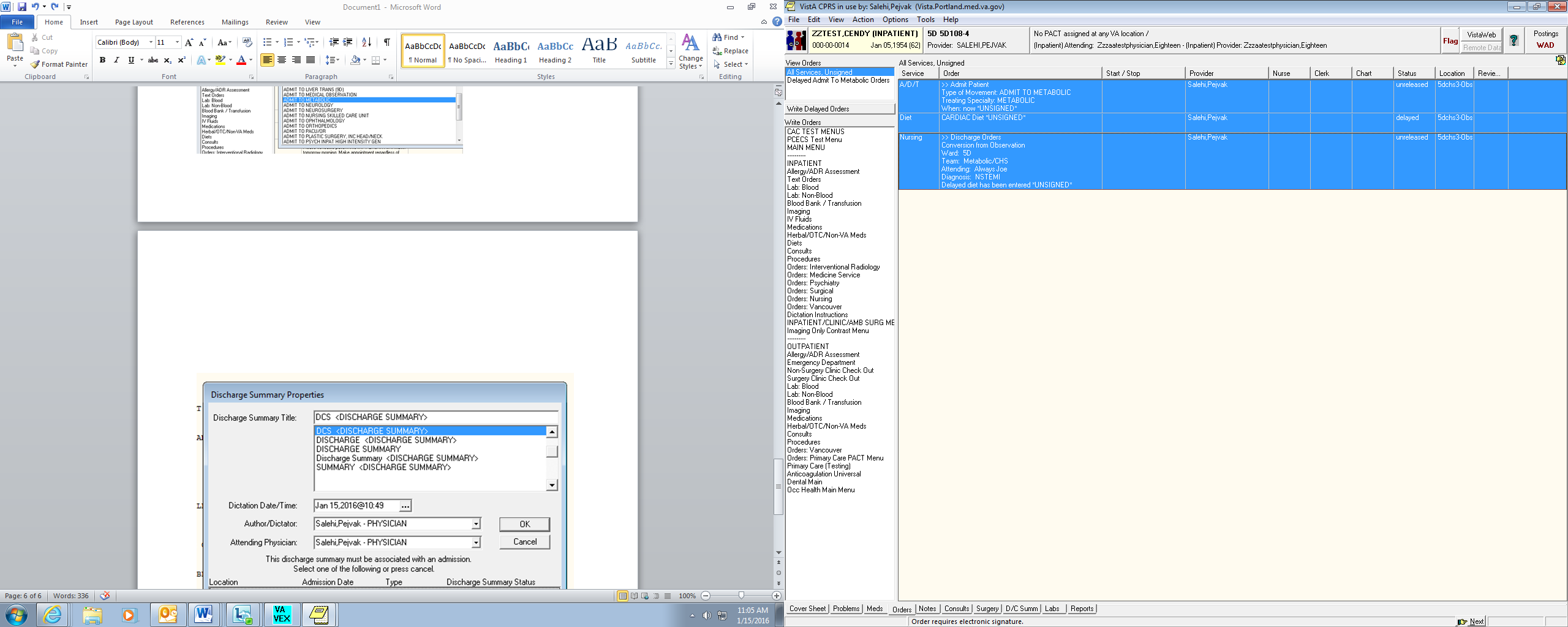


* Fill out the appropriate boxes (see figure below). Patient will be changed from team “medical observation” to team “metabolic/CHS” or team “GM1-5”
* Note that **diet order will drop** after patient is discharged from obs and admitted to inpatient. You will need to write **a new delayed diet order** (see below)



* Next write delayed admit order and attach a diet to it. This is more for MSAs to know what service is taking care of the patient after they have been admitted from obs (I know: redundant!)





* All other orders will transition automaticaly from obs to inpatient (including active medications and imaging studies)
* The only exception during conversion is **pending medications**: these **will drop** upon conversion. Current process requires MSAs to review orders and recognize any pending medication orders. Then they are to contact the pharmacist to process and convert any pending medication orders to active. Then the MSA can proceed with the conversion from obs to inpatient.
* At the time of discharge you will be asked to do 2 discharge summaries. One for the observation admission and one for the ward admission. You are **not** required to do 2 full discharge summaries. Most other facilities write a quick sentence for the observation discharge summary stating that the veteran was admitted to obs (with some diagnosis), then converted to inpatient status and to refer to the inpatient discharge summary for more details. 