

Nursing 201: Diabetes in Children

Case Study Review

Jennifer is a 13-year-old girl who is the youngest child in her family. She has two older healthy brothers who live at home. Her parents have no medical issues. Jennifer is in the eighth grade and is active in school sports. Jennifer wasn't feeling well and was seen in the ED. A urinalysis detected glycosuria and Jennifer's serum blood glucose was over 300. Her diagnosis is new onset of Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus.

1. What are the signs/symptoms of diabetes? What is the difference between type 1 and type 2?

2. What is DKA? What would be appropriate teaching regarding this subject for Jennifer and her parents?

3. What are the developmental implications of this diagnosis on a 13 year old? Think about how Jennifer will handle the new diagnosis.

4. What is the effect of increased exercise/sporting activities on Jennifer's insulin needs? What teaching would you as the nurse prioritize in her plan of care?

5. What types of resources/referrals could you recommend for Jennifer and her parents regarding her new diagnosis?