

N202 Unit VI Part 2

Class Preparation Assignment - Trauma Case Study

Patient Profile:

J.B. is a 78-year-old male who was found by his neighbor laying on the ground in his garden. It is unknown how long he has been lying there. It appears he has fallen off the roof while fixing the shingles on his house. His left femur is protruding through the skin. The paramedics report that he was found in a large pool of blood. Additional visible wounds include scattered bruising to head and abdomen.

Subjective Data:

- N/A - unresponsive, no family at bedside

Objective Data:

- Unresponsive
- BP 60/42, HR 168, RR 14, SpO2 88% on RA, Temperature 94.7 F
- Left femur protruding through skin
- Scattered bruising to abdomen and head
- Scattered abrasions

Questions:

1. What potentially life-threatening injuries does J.B. have? Why did you come to this conclusion?
Hypotensive crisis due to the large pool of blood
2. What is the priority of care for this patient?
The priority care would be to control/stop the bleeding and replace the blood loss using 2 large bore IV's
3. What diagnostic studies (images & labs) do you anticipate being ordered for this client?
CT and MRI of head and abdomen, XRAY, H&H, CBC
4. Once the client is initially stabilized, the nurse begins to consider additional injuries. What other potential complications/syndromes/injuries may this client be experiencing?
Spinal cord injury, intracranial hematomas, sepsis, fractured ribs with/without organ rupture
5. For the identified injury/illness above, what clinical manifestations should the nurse assess for?
Paralysis, mental status changes, fever, hypotension, tachycardia, pain

6. What treatment measures and nursing interventions does the nurse anticipate for this client?

Maintaining neutral alignment, c-collar, IVF, blood transfusion, multimodal approach to pain management, 100% O2, wound care, intubation