

Class Preparation Ischemic Stroke

Directions: Read the scenario and complete the table below

Scenario: A 70-year-old patient diagnosed with an Ischemic Stroke was admitted 1 day ago. His medical history includes hypertension, osteoarthritis, and type 2 diabetes mellitus. He has right-sided paralysis, garbled speech, and a weak cough reflex. This morning, he is very restless. Vital signs: Blood pressure 160/80, pulse 110, respirations 24. Oxygen saturation is 90%.

Use an X to indicate which actions listed in the left column would be implemented to prevent complications in this patient. Write the rationale for each action (why or why not would this be implemented?).

Actions	Implemented	Rationale
Administer subcutaneous heparin.	X	Since the pt had a stroke they are @ risk for thrombi, heparin can prevent new clots from forming
Implement seizure precautions.		Seizures are not common in stroke pts & is not necessary
Apply oxygen via cannula at 2 L/min.	X	The pt's SpO_2 is low & should be increased by adding O_2
Consult speech therapy.	X	pt is having a hard time talking & has a weak cough reflex - @ r/f aspiration
Position the patient on his right side for no longer than 2 hours.	X	Keeping a pt in one position too long can cause skin breakdown - pt has paralysis & can't turn himself
Perform passive ROM exercises.	X	pt has paralysis ROM can help to prevent muscles from atrophy
Elevate head of bed 45 degrees.	X	Prevent aspirations especially when eating & drinking