

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	You want to use an anticoagulant to prevent further clots forming in the brain.
Implement seizure precautions.	X	Seizures can be a side effect of a stroke so it is important to have padded rails in case a seizure occurs.
Apply oxygen via cannula at 2 L/min.	X	Oxygen needs to be applied due to the brain needing more oxygen, the brain needs continuous oxygenation
Consult speech therapy.	X	Consulting speech therapy may be indicated due to residual effects that may impact speech or eating habits.
Position the patient on his right side for no longer than 2 hours.		If there are seizures occurring the pt will need to be on their side, but they should just be laying flat in bed with the HOB elevated.
Perform passive ROM exercises.		This is not indicated for right now. PT may do this to evaluate residual effects but is not crucial.

<p>Elevate head of bed 45 degrees.</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>Elevating the HOB decreases the risk for aspiration.</p>
--	-----------------	--