

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	To prevent stroke reoccurrence
Implement seizure precautions.	x	Yes, because the patient is at risk for seizure
Apply oxygen via cannula at 2 L/min.	x	Yes, only because O2 is at 90%, not necessarily indicated for stroke patients in general
Consult speech therapy.	x	If the patient has slurred speech, speech therapy should be consulted to help the patient communicate
Position the patient on his right side for no longer than 2 hours.	x	It is good to have patients laying on affected side so the not affected side has ability for full range of motion and prevent aspirations
Perform passive ROM exercises.	x	To keep muscle strength, maintain circulatory circulation and prevent other complications

Elevate head of bed 45 degrees.		It is better to have stroke patients lay flat or 30 degrees to maintain proper blood flow through the body
---------------------------------	--	---