

**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.	<b>X</b>	<b>Heparin will prevent another blood clot from forming. This will reduce the risk of another stroke. Since the pt has a hx of HTN they have a higher risk of clotting.</b>
Implement seizure precautions.	<b>X</b>	<b>Seizures can happen with strokes so imitating precautions is good for prevention and promoting safety.</b>
Apply oxygen via cannula at 2 L/min.	<b>X</b>	<b>Since the stroke was ischemic applying oxygen can maintain oxygenation for the brain and increase saturations to maintain it above at least 92%.</b>
Consult speech therapy.	<b>X</b>	<b>Since the pt is having garbled speech therapy should be consulted to help the pt communicate and swallow.</b>

Position the patient on his right side for no longer than 2 hours.	X	<b>Positioning the pt ofn his right side can reduce the risk for aspiration since he is having garbled speech, weak cough reflex, and right side paralysis.</b>
Perform passive ROM exercises.	X	<b>Passive ROM can help maintain joint mobility on the pts right side.</b>
Elevate head of bed 45 degrees.	X	<b>Elevating the hob 45 degrees can help improve oxygenation.</b>

