

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? Hemorrhage d/t the pool of blood and open femur fracture, internal bleeding d/t the bruising on head and abdomen, and hypovolemic shock due to BP 60/42, HR 168, and unresponsiveness.
2. What is the priority of care for this patient?
Give blood products and go to surgery for broken femur that is protruding.
3. What diagnostic studies (images & labs) do you anticipate being ordered for this client?
I anticipate a CT of head & neck, CT of abdomen, FAST US of abdomen, H&H, type and screen, CBC, BMP, and coags.
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?
Potential complications they may be experiencing include shock, stroke, infection (osteomyelitis), bleeding disorders, and hypothermia.
5. For the identified injury/illness above, what clinical manifestations should the nurse assess for?
For shock the nurse should assess for facial drooping, further bruising or bleeding on abdomen for potential bleeding disorders, cold skin and low rectal temperatures for hypothermia, and low BP and high HR for shock.
6. What treatment measures and nursing interventions does the nurse anticipate for this client?
Treatment measures and nursing interventions for this nurse include surgery to correct bone displacement, administering blood products, antibiotics for infection, bair hugger, vasopressors and IV fluids.