

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	DVT prophylaxis (UNLESS CONTRAINDICATED.)
Implement seizure precautions.	X	After an ischemic stroke, seizures are a risk for the first 24-48 hours.
Apply oxygen via cannula at 2 L/min.	X	For immediate and acute management, it is important to keep oxygen saturation > 94%
Consult speech therapy.	X	To prevent aspiration pneumonia.
Position the patient on his right side for no longer than 2 hours.	X	Q2hr turns are important in preventing pressure injuries/skin breakdown.
Perform passive ROM exercises.	X	To prevent contractures, joint stiffness, maintain circulation, reduce risk of pressure injuries and DVT.
Elevate head of bed 45 degrees.	X	Can help reduce ICP, <u>reduce aspiration risk</u> , and improve pulmonary function.