

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	Administering heparin can decrease the chance another stroke involving a clot. An individual who has had a stroke is at a higher risk for future strokes.
Implement seizure precautions.	X	Implementing seizure precautions is necessary due to the increased risk of seizures due to stroke.
Apply oxygen via cannula at 2 L/min.	X	Applying supplemental oxygen will maintain or increase the individual's oxygen saturation.
Consult speech therapy.	X	A speech evaluation is essential for the safety of the patient. Especially with med administration & any oral intake.
Position the patient on his right side for no longer than 2 hours.		An individual with right-sided paralysis should not be positioned on the affected side due to reduced sensation.
Perform passive ROM exercises.	X	Passive ROM exercises are essential when reducing muscle atrophy & promoting stimulation.
Elevate head of bed 45 degrees.	X	Elevating the HOB can decrease the risk for aspiration due to a weakened cough reflex along with dysphagia.