

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	Because of his right-sided paralysis, he is most likely on bed rest, and that is a big risk for DVTs/other clots
Implement seizure precautions.	X	Bc he already had a stroke coming into the hospital and you need to be extra careful in the first 24 hours in case it happens

		again
Apply oxygen via cannula at 2 L/min.	X	O2 sat is a little low so we can bump that up a little bit with O2 and some deep breathing.
Consult speech therapy.	X	garbled speech, weak cough reflex
Position the patient on his right side for no longer than 2 hours.	X	considerable risk for skin breakdown, leading to another problem and longer stay in the hospital, possibly
Perform passive ROM exercises.	X	reduce the risk for DVTs
Elevate head of bed 45 degrees.	X	aspiration precaution