

# Curve Balls

1. Your patient begins to breathe rapidly? What is your next action?
2. Your patient is receiving PCA morphine for pain. The patient is crying and states their pain is a 9/10. The PCA is time locked out. What is your next action?
3. You have been busy in your other patient's room. You arrive in your second patient's room to find the Propofol is empty and your ventilated patient is trying to sit up in bed. What do you do next?
4. Your septic patient is receiving norepinephrine intravenous continuous drip. Your SBP per the arterial line suddenly drops 15 mmHG. What are your next steps? What might be contributing factors?
5. Your intubated and ventilator dependent patient just coughed out the endotracheal tube? What are your next steps? What safety measure should you put in place?
6. Your post op patient has a history of hypertension and diabetes. On assessment the patient complains of dizziness, has slurred speech, and is having difficulty holding their water cup. What is your next action and why?
7. Your trauma patient just arrived from the ED. On assessment you find no palpable pulse in the right foot. What do you do next?
8. Your intubated patient who also has an oral gastric tube begins to vomit. What are your next steps?
9. You are assigned a mechanically ventilated post op patient. As you are returning from the med room you hear your ventilator alarms going off. What are your next steps?
10. You have 2 very busy patients with challenging families. The charge nurse tells you that you are receiving a 3<sup>rd</sup> patient that is a trauma from the emergency room. What are your next steps? What are your options?
11. You are transferring your patient to the operating room. The transport aide accidentally steps on the chest tube tubing and the chest tube is dislodged and falls to the floor. Your patient begins to have develop severe respiratory distress. What are your next steps?
12. The physician has written orders you do not feel are in the best interest of your patient. What do you do?
13. You are caring for a spinal cord patient when you notice the arterial line SBP begin rising rapidly? What is your next step?
14. You are administering a unit of PRBC's to your patient. Your patient begins to complain of right flank pain. What are your next steps?
15. Your patient is in obvious severe pain but they refuse to take the ordered oral pain medicine. What are your next steps?
16. You need to administer your IVPB antibiotic on time because you will be drawing a peak and trough drug level with the next dose. Your patient has a triple lumen central line

with TPN infusing in one port, norepinephrine infusing in the second port, and propofol infusing in the 3<sup>rd</sup> port. What are your next steps?

17. Your patient had their bladder catheter removed 7 hours ago. They have not urinated since. What do you do now?
18. You have a patient who had clear lung sounds 4 hours ago and now you auscultate crackles. What do you do?
19. You are walking down the hall in your unit on your way to lunch. You notice a patient trying to crawl over the side rails of the bed. What are your next steps?
20. Your patient's right radial arterial line becomes disconnected and blood is spirting on the bed. What do you do?