

Virtual SIM Week 1 Scenario-

It is currently 0730, you are a nurse who normally works in CICU that has been pulled to the emergency department (ED) to help with overflow patients. While you are in the ED, the charge nurse informs you that you will be getting the next patient in triage, a 49-year-old female, to room 11. Their main complaint is jaw pain and nausea X2 days. The ED physician has been notified and the patient has been brought back to your room. Patient is Judy Jensen 7/23/1970.

Answer the following questions:

What is your first impression of this patient? What do you think might be going on?
My first impression is that Ms. Jensen could potentially be having a myocardial infarction. I need to act fast and rule out any other possibilities.

What other information do you want from the patient?
I want to know the onset of her jaw pain. I want to know what medications she has taken or is currently on. I want to know if she has a history of any cardiac issues. I would ask her to describe her pain, if it radiates anywhere, or if she is experiencing any other abnormalities. I would also ask her to point to her pain and ask if it changes when she takes a deep breath or changes anything.

What diagnostic tests would you like run on this patient?
EKG, cardiac enzymes, echocardiogram, possibly a coronary angiogram

What focused assessments do you want to perform?
I would perform a focused cardiac & respiratory assessment. I would perform an abdominal assessment too just because she is having nausea and in case my suspicion of a MI is incorrect.

What interventions do you want to perform? What interventions do you think you might need to do if your tests come back positive?
I would get vital signs, apply O2, get an IV access, place her on a cardiac monitor. If the tests come back positive, I would administer medications and get my patient ready to go to the Cath lab.

What medications, if any, do you want to give or anticipate needing to give?
Nitroglycerin #1 or morphine. I could also give aspirin & beta blockers depending on her heart rate. I could give antiplatelet medications and/or anticoagulants. Could also give alteplase for thrombolytic therapy.