

# Adult/Geriatric Critical Thinking Worksheet

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Unit: S5

Pt. Initials:WM

Date:1/23/21

## 1. Disease Process & Brief Pathophysiology

Acute Infarcts in right Cerebellar hemisphere superiorly and in the right occipital lobe.

Impaired perfusion in the brain, specifically the cerebellar artery and inferior cerebellar artery decreases oxygen delivery in the brain and causes motor and balance deficits.

Vascular occlusions along the afferent or efferent visual neurons cause visual defects or ocular disability.

## 2. Factors for the Development of the Disease/Acute Illness

### Modifiable:

Smoking

Diabetes

High cholesterol

Heavy drinking

High fat diet, obesity

### Non-modifiable:

high blood pressure (P)

Lack of exercise

## 3. Signs and Symptoms

sudden numbness or weakness (especially if only on one side of the body) (P)

Sudden confusion

Sudden vision changes in one or both eyes (P)

Trouble ambulating or balancing (P)

Severe headache

Dizziness

Difficulty swallowing

## 4. Diagnostic Tests pertinent or confirming of diagnosis

CT scan to show detailed images of the brain, it will provide information on the location of the bleed, ischemic events, and obstructions (P)

Echocardiogram to find a potential source clots in the heart that may have traveled and caused the stroke (P)

Blood tests (P)

## 5. Lab Values that may be affected

CBC- may show anemia or infection

Serum electrolytes

Blood glucose elevation (P)

Cholesterol elevation

## 6. Current Treatment

Surgical removal of a clot

Physical therapy (P)

Withholding blood pressure medications (P)

Radiosurgery

**7. Focused Nursing Diagnosis:**

Disturbed sensory perception

**8. Related to (r/t):**

Visual disturbance

**9. As evidenced by (aeb):**

Patient's reported and observed lack of peripheral vision

Patient complains of seeing people or objects that are not actually present

Patient failed neurological testing for vision function

**10. Desired patient outcome:**

Patient will understand and teach back the importance of going to follow up appointment with ophthalmologist and cardiologist at discharge. Patient will also demonstrate an understanding of the potential that he may never regain vision and understand healthy coping mechanisms.  
1/20/21. 1100.

**11. Nursing Interventions related to the Nursing Diagnosis in #7:**

1 . Monitor patient for signs of fear or agitation

**Evidenced Based Practice:**

After an life altering event and impaired visual perception, psychological health and functioning may be altered. To prevent possible injury or psychological changes, monitoring the patient closely is essential.

2. Provide therapeutic support as a discharge care plan is being formulated

**Evidenced Based Practice:**

The unknown of regaining vision is a stressful and life altering event. The patient may need support and additional teaching in a therapeutic manner to be in a health psychological state upon discharge.

3. Assist patient in ambulation to the bathroom and around the room

**Evidenced Based Practice:**

Mobility and encouragement to ambulate despite unsteadiness due to visual disturbance can aid in patient self esteem. It is important to help the patient adjust to his new normal of visual impairment. Upon returning home he will need maintain activities of daily life.

**12. Patient Teaching:**

1. Teach patient the importance of making follow up appointments with ophthalmology and cardiology

2. Teach safe and slow ambulation.

3. Teach importance of a low cholesterol diet

**13. Discharge Planning/Community Resources:**

1. Increased visits with physical therapy to help patient learn to ambulate

2. Ensure patient makes an appointment with an ophthalmologist for an eye exam as soon as possible

3. Ensure patient makes an appointment with cardiologist for blood pressure and contributing risk factors for a recurrent stroke.

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Vera, M., By, -, Vera, M., & Matt Vera is a registered nurse with a bachelor of science in nursing since 2009 and is currently working as a full-time writer and editor for Nurseslabs. During his time as a student. (2021, January 18). Nursing Diagnosis: Everything You Need to Know [2020 Guide]. Retrieved January 24, 2021, from <https://nurseslabs.com/nursing-diagnosis/>