

IM6 PMH Alcohol Withdrawal

Guided Reflection Questions

1. What issues have you identified that could be barriers to a successful treatment for Rhoda Smith?
 - Her age could be a barrier since she is older and sometimes, they are stuck in their ways of life. Also, she might be forgetful and not remember to take medication she is prescribed
2. How would you address the denial she is expressing regarding her alcohol consumption?
 - You could comfort her and let her know that you are there for her if she wants to talk about it. Let her know it's a safe space.
3. Identify a support group that would be beneficial to Mrs. Smith.
 - Alcoholics Anonymous
4. Identify support groups that would be beneficial to Rhoda Smiths' family.
 - Maybe a support group for family members that have an alcoholic relative. Like AI-ANON and others
5. Rhoda Smith is currently in mild to moderate stage of alcohol withdrawal. As she moves into Stage II (24 to 72 hours) and then into Stage III (after 72 hours), what behaviors should be assessed for and what safety measures should be initiated?
 - Look for s/s of delirium tremens and safety measures should include performing a CIWA-AR on her every two hours to look for worsening alcohol withdrawal and possibly delirium tremens.
6. How would you apply the skills and knowledge gained in the Rhoda Smith case to an actual patient situation in different acute care units (emergency room, intensive care unit, obstetrics unit, etc.)?
 - I would use them by knowing the signs and symptoms of alcohol withdrawal so I can perform a CIWA-AR and Audit assessments to see

if they are withdrawing and also know what to do and teach about alcohol abuse if they have a negative relationship with alcohol. Also I know now how to communicate better with a patient that is withdrawing and how to get through to them.