

IM6 PMH Alcohol Withdrawal

Guided Reflection Questions

1. What issues have you identified that could be barriers to a successful treatment for Rhoda Smith?

Reluctance of being completely truthful and forgetting about certain situations until her son prompted her.

2. How would you address the denial she is expressing regarding her alcohol consumption?

Acknowledge the issue of the addiction and her denial. I would express that I am here to help her every step of the way when she is ready to take the next step. I would not give up on her and would not be condescending. I would come from a place of concern and compassion.

3. Identify a support group that would be beneficial to Mrs. Smith.

A support group that could potentially be beneficial to Mrs. Smith is the group Alcoholics Anonymous.

4. Identify support groups that would be beneficial to Rhoda Smiths' family.

A support group that would potentially be beneficial to her family would be the Al- Anon family groups, Co-Dependents Anonymous, and Nar-Anon family Groups.

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?

Increased vital signs, confusion, sweating, irritability, mood swings and may progress to hallucinations, seizures, agitation. Seizure precautions should be initiated and monitoring vital signs and liver function is crucial.

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.)?

Alcohol withdrawal and substance abuse are potential things that need to be addressed on any floor. I will be able to navigate through how I would handle this situation with proper communication. The physical symptoms will need to be addressed as well as the emotional ones. Through proper support and education, we can provide our patient's with healthy coping mechanisms that will make them more resilient.