

Scenario 5: Anaphylaxis

- 1) List in order of priority your initial nursing actions identified for Charlie Snow based on physical findings and family interaction.
 - Airway takes priority. Since he was stating low on the nasal cannula, I moved him to a nonrebreather. 2nd It was important getting Charlie his medications to help stop the reaction. After assessing vitals and allergies, it was important for me to give him all the meds the Dr. ordered, starting with epinephrine. 3rd It was important to frequently monitor his vital signs to make sure they were improving and make sure he was not in any pain.
- 2) What complications might Charlie Snow face if symptoms are not recognized and treated in a timely manner?
 - Some of the anaphylaxis complications include brain damage, kidney failure, cardiogenic shock, arrhythmias, heart attacks, death.
- 3) What key elements would you include in the handoff report for this patient? Consider the situation-background-assessment-recommendation (SBAR) format.
 - I would make sure they knew Charlie's current situation, his allergies, and the reaction that brought him in. I would also make sure they knew that he was here with his aunt instead of his parents. I would let them know the vital sign's history, especially the respiratory ones. I would also tell them that I moved him to a non-rebreather because he was stating low on the nasal cannula. I would tell them all the given medications and his weight since the pediatric patient's medication dose is based on their weight.
- 4) Reflecting on Charlie Snow's case, were there any actions you would do differently? If so, what were these actions, and why would you do them differently?
 - I would have started immediately giving him the epinephrine since we knew he was having an allergic reaction. That is the most important thing you can do for a person who is experiencing anaphylaxis. In a real-world situation, I feel like we would've had faster access to that.
- 5) Describe how you would apply the knowledge and skills that you obtained in Charlie Snow's case to an actual patient care situation.
 - I think it is important to realize when a patient is in a critical situation where their airway is being affected. It is essential to focus on that first and foremost and get them connected to oxygen and the medications administered before getting a full set of vitals, a head-to-toe assessment, etc. When a patient is critical, you do things out of the standard order because it can be a life-or-death situation.