

Medical Case 1: Kenneth Bronson

Guided Reflection Questions

1. How did the scenario make you feel?

This scenario made me feel more prepared and a little scared of what happens when a patient experiences an allergic reaction. In the real world, I know it is very different, but this scenario made me think more about what would happen and how I should deal with it. It makes me feel a little overwhelmed, but I also feel like I have the skills and knowledge to deal with it.

2. What signs and symptoms led you to the conclusion that Kenneth Bronson was experiencing an allergic reaction?

He had increased difficulty breathing, broke out into hives, had an obstructed airway, and had a cough. The respiratory signs were the most crucial and indicated that immediate intervention had to happen.

3. Discuss the differences between mild, moderate, and severe anaphylactic reactions.

Mild allergic reactions can involve a rash, localized itching, and congestion. These reactions do not spread to other body parts and are localized. Moderate allergic reactions progress to other parts of the body and these symptoms include itching all over and difficulty breathing. Severe anaphylactic reactions are life-threatening. This reaction is sudden and affects the whole body. The symptoms include itchy eyes, swelling in parts of the face making breathing and swallowing difficult, hives, abdominal pain, cramps, vomiting, diarrhea, and mental confusion. The main difference is how widespread the reaction is and the severity.

4. Discuss the importance of follow-up assessments post-reaction.

It is very important to assess the patient after they have a reaction to see if they are adequately breathing and perfusing. The allergic reaction can have a major effect on the patient's airway so it must be addressed to keep the patient safe. It is also important to determine if the allergic reaction has resolved and that it does not come back. Allergic reactions are major issues, so they require special care, and it is our job to properly assess them.

5. What further needs does Kenneth Bronson have at the end of the scenario that future nursing care should address?

He will need to have documentation that he is allergic to ceftriaxone so that the medical record shows it. This also means that he may need a new medical wristband and an allergy alert triangle on it. For future nursing care, they will want to be very careful if they must give penicillin because he will have an increased risk of being allergic to it. His future needs should mainly be to prevent an allergic reaction and to identify another antibiotic to give for their pneumonia.

6. Reflect on how you would communicate with family members in an emergency situation if they were present at the bedside.

I would reassure them that we are doing everything we can and teach them as I am performing tasks explaining how they will benefit the patient. I will be honest with them about what is going on and I will also use my words and actions to show that I am doing everything I can for the patient. I will also allow them to be honest and ask questions so that I could address any of their worries.

7. After completing the simulation and reflecting on your experience, what would you do differently (or the same) for the patient experiencing acute respiratory distress?

I would do my assessments more accurately to address the patient's individual needs so that I could intervene with proper care faster. I would also do the same thing I did for my simulation and call the provider as soon as possible so that the patient gets the care they need. It felt a little overwhelming with everything going on and the new orders so I will try to stay calm and accurately provide the best care. I want to be able to provide the best care I can for the patient and give it in a timely manner.

8. How could you prepare for clinical in order to plan ahead for potential patient emergencies?

I could research more so that I am able to quickly identify that a patient is having an emergency and be ready to help in any way I can. I will also practice being confident so that I can be there for the patient. I want to be able to accurately help any patient going through an emergency, so I am going to try to remember all the skills and things I have learned to help them.