

Surgical Case 2: Stan Checketts

Guided Reflection Questions

1. How did the scenario make you feel?
 - I felt like I could anticipate the next step to take with this scenario which made me feel calmer than I did with the other vSim assignment.
2. When reflecting on the care of Stan Checketts, what are signs and symptoms you can assess in the next patient you care for who might be at risk for dehydration?
 - Nausea and vomiting are one of the signs I can assess with the next patient that I care for that may have dehydration
3. Discuss signs and symptoms of hypovolemic shock.
 - Increased heart rate, increased respirations, and decreased BP
4. Discuss assessment and expected findings in a small bowel obstruction.
 - I would assess the bowel sounds. I would also expect to see the patient presenting with abdominal pain, and nausea and vomiting.
5. What key questions does the nurse ask in an acute abdominal pain assessment?
 - I would ask the patient when his last BM was. Asses the abdominal pain by using a pain scale of 0-10.
6. In evaluating Stan Checketts' laboratory values, what if any abnormalities did you find?
 - His BUN and creatinine were high, along with glucose, sodium, WBC, and HCT.
7. Stan Checketts had a nasogastric (NG) tube inserted for gastric decompression. What are the preferred methods for confirming placement of the NG tube?
 - The gold standard for confirming NG tube is x-ray
8. What key elements would you include in the handoff report for this patient? Consider the SBAR (situation, background, assessment, recommendation) format.
 - I would include his diagnosis, with current vital signs. I would tell the oncoming nurse about the dehydration and update on current hydration status. Report the assessments I did and any abnormal labs that came back. And recommend that we keep him on fluids if his blood pressure is low to maintain fluid volume.
9. What would you do differently if you were to repeat this scenario? How would your patient care change?
 - I would administer Zofran for his nausea. This would change the patient care because it would have helped the patient feel better by not feeling so nauseated.