

## Surgical Case 2: Stan Checketts

### Guided Reflection Questions

1. How did the scenario make you feel? **I was much more comfortable in this scenario because it was the second one I have done today.**
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? **I would assess circulation, skin turgor, LOC, and assess the pt's mucous membranes.**
3. Discuss signs and symptoms of hypovolemic shock. **Cool, clammy, decreased LOC, weakness, pallor, tachypnea, and diaphoresis.**
4. Discuss assessment and expected findings in a small bowel obstruction. **Abdominal pain, vomiting, nausea, dehydration, malaise, and constipation.**
5. What key questions does the nurse ask in an acute abdominal pain assessment? **Last bowel movement, what the stool normally looks like, what their bowel movement schedule is like.**
6. In evaluating Stan Checketts' laboratory values, what if any abnormalities did you find? **I would want to check electrolyte levels due to his vomiting and nausea. Vomiting is going to lead to decreases in potassium and sodium. Hct can also increase with dehydration.**
7. Stan Checketts had a nasogastric (NG) tube inserted for gastric decompression. What are the preferred methods for confirming placement of the NG tube? **Confirmation with an X-ray is going to be the best way to confirm placement.**
8. What key elements would you include in the handoff report for this patient? Consider the SBAR (situation, background, assessment, recommendation) format. **Most recent vitals, most recent labs, when ondansetron was last administered, what is flowing through the IV and at what rate, when morphine was last administered and the dosage, the background of the patient, and what the current treatment and plan is for the patient.**
9. What would you do differently if you were to repeat this scenario? How would your patient care change? **I would just want to get him the pain and nausea medications sooner.**