

Medical Case 1: Kenneth Bronson

Guided Reflection Questions

1. How did the scenario make you feel?
The scenario was a bit nerve-racking, but it prompted me to act fast and respond appropriately.
2. What signs and symptoms led you to the conclusion that Kenneth Bronson was experiencing an allergic reaction?
I had reason to believe Kenneth was having an allergic reaction because he stated that his throat felt like it was closing. In addition to this, his heart rate and respiratory rate went up fast. At the same time as the heart and respiratory rate increase, Mr. Bronson's blood pressure and O2 saturation decreased.
3. Discuss the differences between mild, moderate, and severe anaphylactic reactions.
Mild anaphylactic reactions cause symptoms such as rash, hives, watery eyes, or rhinorrhea. Moderate reactions include hives, pruritus, swelling, or dyspnea. Severe reactions are often life-threatening; These reactions include throat swelling, dysphagia, pain, pruritus, dizziness, and vomiting.
4. Discuss the importance of follow-up assessments post-reaction.
It is important to perform follow-up assessments post-reaction because it is possible for delayed reaction. Additionally, this is important in determining the effectiveness of the treatment.
5. What further needs does Kenneth Bronson have at the end of the scenario that future nursing care should address?
Mr. Bronson should have updated allergy documentation charts. He should also be provided with an allergy bracelet and new pneumonia treatment orders.
6. Reflect on how you would communicate with family members in an emergency situation if they were present at the bedside.
In the case of an emergency situation, I would ask family members that are present to step out of the room. I would be sure to try and comfort the family, as well as give them an explanation as to why the reaction has occurred and how we plan to treat it. Following treatment, I would explain to the patient and their family what steps were taken to amend the situation. I would also inform them of necessary precautions to take to avoid the situation in the future.
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?

If I were to experience this situation again, I would first place the patient in the upright position to promote breathing. I would make sure to call the provider and request to epinephrine before any medications not previously used to treat the patient.

8. How could you prepare for clinical in order to plan ahead for potential patient emergencies? One way that I could prepare for clinical in order to plan ahead for potential patient emergencies would be to familiarize myself with their chart. I would want to ask about possible allergies before the administration of any medications.