

## Surgical Case 2: Stan Checketts

### Guided Reflection Questions

1. How did the scenario make you feel?  
This scenario did not make me feel any type of way. I feel like everything went as planned according to the physician's orders and there were no surprises.
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?  
Some signs I would assess for our nausea, vomiting, muscle cramps, and probably directly ask the patient about the last time they had something to drink.
3. Discuss signs and symptoms of hypovolemic shock.  
Some signs of hypovolemic shock are cool, clammy skin, rapid breathing, pallor, increased heart rate, and dizziness. Hypovolemic shock is a volume depletion.
4. Discuss assessment and expected findings in a small bowel obstruction.  
A patient with a small bowel obstruction would present with abdominal cramping, abdominal distention, vomiting, nausea, unable to pass gas, and constipation.
5. What key questions does the nurse ask in an acute abdominal pain assessment?  
It is important to the location of the pain, to describe the pain, when it started, how long it lasts, and for the patient to rate it on a 0-10 pain scale.
6. In evaluating Stan Checketts' laboratory values, what if any abnormalities did you find?  
Much of Stan's electrolytes were abnormal most likely due to his excessive vomiting over the course of 3 days.
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 best way to confirm the placement of an NG tube to get an abdominal 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 reason for coming to the hospital, diagnosis, the medications and labs I did. I would also add in what the physician said when I contacted him, and what I think the oncoming nurse could do for the patient.
9. What would you do differently if you were to repeat this scenario? How would your patient care change?  
I do not think I would do anything differently. I did forget to ask about allergies at first because I could not find the button to ask, but I know with a real patient, I would never forget.