

Medical Case 1: Kenneth Bronson

Guided Reflection Questions

1. How did the scenario make you feel?

This scenario made me feel really pressured to try and work fast once the patient started experiencing the symptoms of anaphylaxis. It made me more cautious about taking the right steps to ensure that the priority interventions occurred.

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

The major key to recognizing the allergic reaction was the fact that Mr. Bronson's breathing became more difficult shortly after the antibiotic began infusing. He verbalized that he was having difficulty breathing and notified the nurse that something didn't feel right.

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

Mild allergic reactions are not as life-threatening. The symptoms will be limited to a rash, itching, or congestion. It will not spread to other parts of the body. Moderate reactions will begin to spread and the itching can be in several locations and difficulty breathing may also occur. Severe anaphylaxis is a life-threatening emergency and requires immediate intervention. Symptoms can include hives, itching of eyes or face, and swelling of the throat or tongue.

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

Follow-up assessments must be performed in order to ensure that a relapse does not occur. Symptoms have the potential to re-occur. The patient should be aware of what caused their reaction.

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

Mr. Bronson should be aware of his sensitivity to the medication and the family of medications so that he is able to avoid another exposure.

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

I would try to help the family remain as calm as possible. Although the situation is scary and they will be concerned, I should ensure them that all the necessary equipment and resources are available to treat the condition. I should educate the family and patient about what is taking place and the benefits that the actions will provide.

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?

After completing this scenario, I would do my best to ensure that I take the most vital steps first and try to do them as quickly and safely as possible. I would make sure to know what all must be done in this situation and not freak out.

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

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In order to prepare for a potential emergency, I could ensure that I know what amount of oxygen must be given to support a patient experiencing acute respiratory distress. I would need to know how to properly perform vital assessments quickly and re-assess the patient accordingly.