

Surgical Case 5: Lloyd Bennett

Guided Reflection Questions

1. How did the scenario make you feel?

After taking the pre quiz I assumed that the patient was going to have a transfusion reaction so I knew I was going to have to stop the infusion and call the doctor. However, I was not sure what I was supposed to do after the reaction happened beyond stopping the infusion. I now know that after calling the doctor you will start a NS infusion and draw labs. I feel better prepared to face a situation like this in real life.

2. Prior to blood administration, what assessments of the blood product and the patient are required to promote safe delivery and lessen potential complications?

Before getting the blood, the patient must be typed and cross matched. After the blood has been brought to the floor you and another nurse must both verify the blood is for the right patient and the correct type of blood. After the verification and all 7 medication rights have been performed in the patients room you can begin the infusion. You must stay with the patient to monitor for a transfusion reaction.

3. What signs and symptoms first indicated the patient was having a transfusion reaction?

After the transfusion was started the patient began to complain of lower back pain.

4. Review the immediate priorities when a transfusion reaction occurs and the rationale for each.

The first thing you should do when a transfusion reaction occurs is to stop the transfusion. Then the ABCs of your patient should be address. After confirming that the patient is stable you should call the physician. You should also call the blood bank and send the blood bag back to determine the cause. After that you should follow any other orders, the physician has given you.

5. What key elements would you include in the handoff report for this patient? Consider the SBAR (situation, background, assessment, recommendation) format.

S: 76-year-old male with complaints of fatigue during physical therapy and dizziness with position changes. CBC shows hemoglobin of 7g/dL and 2 units of PRBC have been ordered.

B: He was in the ER 2 days ago with a femoral head fracture. He had a left hip arthroplasty

A: After the transfusion was started the patient showed signs of a transfusion reaction.

Transfusion was discontinued and vital signs were reassessed.

R: Complete new orders from the physician and continue to monitor patient vitals.

6. What follow-up blood work may be required?

You may need to draw a CBC, BMP, Hgb, and HCT.

7. What follow-up disclosure is required with Lloyd Bennett and his family?

They should be made aware of the situation and that Mr. Bennett is be cared for accordingly. They should also know that the PRBC were sent back to the blood bank and that an investigation is being done.

8. What would you do differently if you were to repeat this scenario? How would your patient care change?

I would not do anything differently. I followed all of the protocols and responded to the situation quickly. I feel like I am more prepared for a situation like this if it was to occur in a real life.