

Medical Case 5: Skyler Hansen

Guided Reflection Questions

1. How did the scenario make you feel?
 - a. The scenario made me feel more comfortable treating a diabetes patient in real life.
2. What management options would have been appropriate if Skyler Hansen had been alert and could swallow?
 - a. If the patient had been awake, oral interventions could have been tried. Offering orange juice and then a carbohydrate would have been an option instead of IV medication.
3. If Skyler Hansen's acute hypoglycemic episode had not have been treated immediately, what could have happened?
 - a. If Skyler Hansen's condition was not corrected, then he would have remained unconscious, and his blood pressure would start to drop. He could also experience seizures because of the lack of glucose in the brain.
4. If too much glucose were administered to Skyler Hansen while the health care team was trying to correct his blood glucose level, what could occur?
 - a. Diabetic Ketoacidosis would develop. He would start experiencing polyuria, polydipsia, confusion, and blurred vision.
5. What key elements would you include in the handoff report for this patient? Consider the SBAR (situation, background, assessment, recommendation) format.
 - a. I would include why he initially came in and the signs and symptoms he is experiencing. I would include his history of type 1 diabetes and whether or not he knew how to control it. I would include the medications and interventions he received as well as the level of education that he has about diabetes.
6. Describe age-appropriate patient teaching for Skyler Hansen and resources that may be helpful to him.
 - a. Skyler is at an age where he can start to learn more in depth about his diagnosis. I would teach him about how to avoid a low blood sugar and certain things that can cause it like too much insulin, high levels of activity, too little food, etc. I would tell him to carry snacks around or small candies in case of an emergency. I would also want to teach him and his family members/friends the signs and symptoms of hypoglycemia and hyperglycemia.
7. Discuss confidentiality and legal empowerment of 18-year-old patients such as in Skyler Hansen's case.
 - a. Skyler Hansen is an adult, and his medical records are confidential even to his parents. He would need to consent to procedures and make his own medical decisions. I could not discuss his case with anyone without his permission.
8. What would you do differently if you were to repeat this scenario? How would your patient care change?

- a. I wouldn't do anything differently in this particular scenario. I felt that I handled the situation well and followed the doctor's orders.