

Pediatric Case 10: Charlie Snow (Complex)

Guided Reflection Questions

Opening Questions

How did the simulated experience of Charlie Snow's case make you feel?

The scenario made me feel a bit anxious because a patent airway is very vital to successful outcomes of a patient dealing with anaphylaxis. Also, this was my first time doing vSim because I missed that rotation for clinical and I accidentally did the OB scenario instead of the pediatric one. So, navigating through the scenario was a bit tricky because I wanted to be quick and efficient in providing quality care to the patient. I realized that when administering the medication that I was hitting flush instead of actually administering the medication. Finally, I was able to get that portion of the scenario right. I felt bad for not asking for allergies again prior to administering medication.

Discuss the actions you felt went well in this scenario.

I was really proud of the fact the fact that I was about to ask the right questions to the patient and provided the best interventions to help the patient breathe better. To remain calm is key in a situation like that because I did not want to make the patient feel anxious but also not have him waiting exceptionally long for medications to help with their breathing. I was incredibly pleased to see that the oxygen saturation was improving after placing the nonrebreather on 10L. I was extremely glad to be able to do the scenario over again and have guidance as to what I needed to correct after the scenario was over with.

Scenario Analysis Questions*

EBP List in order of priority your initial nursing actions identified for Charlie Snow based on physical findings and family interaction.

My priority nursing action in this scenario was to assess airway, breathing and circulation. Also, to make sure the possible anaphylaxis was not getting worse with that scenario going pretty quick on the patient declining on his oxygen saturation. The assessments that I applied to this scenario was respiratory, pain and to call the provider after all current orders have been taken care of.

EBP What complications might Charlie Snow face if symptoms are not recognized and treated in a timely manner?

* The Scenario Analysis Questions are correlated to the Quality and Safety Education for Nurses (QSEN) competencies: Patient-Centered Care (PCC), Teamwork and Collaboration (T&C), Evidence-Based Practice (EBP), Quality Improvement (QI), Safety (S), and Informatics (I). Find more information at: <http://qsen.org/>

If the people that were in the patient's life, then those types of symptoms when dealing with any type of allergy and anaphylactic reaction has to be recognized quickly because they need to be treated in a timely manner. The complications could become worse as the swelling and inflammation occurs in the airway potentially causing the patient to be in a detrimental situation because his airway was compromised.

EBP Why was a glucocorticosteroid administered in this case? Would it have been appropriate to administer albuterol in this case? Why or why not?

The reason a glucocorticosteroid was administered in this scenario is because the patient was experiencing allergy anaphylactic response to what the patient ingested. The reason albuterol was not the first drug of choice because the rate of administration would be important because we want the medication to do its most to allow the airway to decrease in swelling and allow the flow of oxygen to help the patient breathe.

PCC What communication techniques could be initiated to decrease the anxiety of Charlie Snow's aunt?

The ways that were used to calm down the patient was to have the family member speak to the patient to help decrease any anxiety the patient may be experiencing. Also explaining to the patient everything that I was going to do to help stabilize him. Also doing patient teachings after the medications were given and both parents and caregivers need to know what is going on to help ease the tension in the room.

S/QI Reflect on ways to improve safety and quality of care based on your experience with Charlie Snow's case.

Ways I could have improved on safety was to verify the allergies to medications, cleaning agents, and food. Also, I need to make sure when the physician ordered new medication to help provide quality care for the patient. I need to make sure I give IV push medications at the correct rate but I gave an IM injection before even administering the IV push medication. So, I need to be able to prioritize the medications to give because there is a reason each one is given the way it is given.

S/I Because Charlie Snow is accompanied by his aunt and not by a parent, what legal matter must be considered before performing treatment?

There was no legal matter to consider because I verified and identified legal consent to provide the proper interventions to make it easier for the patient to breathe and subside the other symptoms they were experiencing.

T&C What role do you feel Charlie Snow's guardians and parents have as members of his health care team? (Explain your answer.)

In this scenario the patient was living with his aunt and uncle while his parents are overseas serving in the military. Charly's aunt brought him to the emergency department because after eating peanuts he began to develop tachycardia and dyspnea with mild stridor. Whether it be the parents or the guardians (aunt and uncle) they play a vital role in the successful outcomes of the patient because they can give his past medical history, allergies, and what was happening prior and during his anaphylactic reaction occurred.

T&C/I What key elements would you include in the handoff report for this patient? Consider the situation-background-assessment-recommendation (SBAR) format.

The key elements of handoff report for the patient are that he was a 6-year-old male who presented with tachycardia and dyspnea in the emergency department. He is accompanied by his aunt and uncle while his parents are overseas. He accidentally ate a cookie containing peanuts. He was currently on nasal cannula at 2 Liters. A saline lock has been placed on his left AC. He has been connected to a cardiac/apnea monitor with a SpO2 probe in place. Charlie is in bed and experienced progressing difficulty breathing. The physician was called and the patient was placed on a nonrebreather on 10 Liters. Physician was contacted and he ordered 3 medications that will help dilate and open the alveoli in the lungs to allow for proper perfusion to the body.

Concluding Questions

Reflecting on Charlie Snow's case, were there any actions you would do differently? If so, what were these actions, and why would you do them differently?

For sure I would have verified allergies sooner. Also, I need to ask about order of administration of the new physician orders that were placed. Also, I forgot to administer the normal saline prior to ending the scenario. The reasons I would do them differently is because the patient is already having an anaphylactic reaction and I do not want to make it worse by not verifying allergies and to assure that nothing else he is allergic to. Reason I mentioned medication administration is because two for sure was STAT but I found myself giving the fluids instead of administering the epinephrine to help with the inflammation and help increase oxygen saturations.

Describe how you would apply the knowledge and skills that you obtained in Charlie Snow's case to an actual patient care situation.

I will apply the knowledge learned from the scenario to any situation that can potentially happen at work or outside at public events. Especially with food allergies. Airway, breathing, circulation is most definitely key in the successful outcomes a patient in a emergent situation. Also, to remain calm despite not knowing exactly what to do to help provide quality care for the patients.