

Pediatric Case 5: Charlie Snow

Documentation Assignments

1. Document your initial focused assessment of Charlie Snow.

My initial focused assessment for Charlie was respirations due to anaphalaxis.

2. Identify and document key nursing diagnoses for Charlie Snow.

Impaired gas exchange and cardiac function. Allergies and preceding information of the event from parents at the bedside.

3. Referring to your feedback log, document the nursing care you provided and Charlie Snow's response.

I walked in, washed my hands, introduced myself and then identified the patient and family members. I then assessed the patient head to toe, and obtained vital signs. I carried out the orders that were already in place. Upon assessing the patient I called the doctor for guidance. After receiving new orders I carried them out, reassessed the patient to make sure the new orders were effective, and then educated the family and patient on prevention of anaphylaxis and what to do in case of another episode. I made sure the patient was stable and felt comfortable, and then I handed off.

4. Document the patient teaching that you would provide before discharge.

Educated on the proper use of the patient's newly prescribed epinephrine pen, foods/allergens to avoid, and what to do in case of another event.

Pediatric Case 10: Charlie Snow (Complex)

Guided Reflection Questions

Opening Questions

How did the simulated experience of Charlie Snow's case make you feel? This simulated experience made me feel a little flustered at first, but it was nice to experience because I learned a lot. It helped me learn how to organize my care, and how to work under a stressful situation but still remain calm.

Discuss the actions you felt went well in this scenario. I felt like I handled myself well, considering Charlie was not breathing the way he was supposed to. In stressful situations you have to keep your calm, especially because if you look stressed then the family will start to worry even more. I also felt like I passed meds well and that I contacted the doctor in a timely manner.

Scenario Analysis Questions*

- EBP** List in order of priority your initial nursing actions identified for Charlie Snow based on physical findings and family interaction. Initially I confirmed the patient's name and DOB. I then assessed him and got vitals quickly because I knew a call was going to have to be made to the doctor and they were going to ask me for that information. The priority was keeping Charlie's airway open so I assessed his O₂ saturation and respirations first.
- EBP** What complications might Charlie Snow face if symptoms are not recognized and treated in a timely manner? Charlie could face possible hypoxia due to his airway closing, impaired gas exchange because of his low O₂ saturation, and possibly losing consciousness due to his low blood pressure.
- 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 glucocorticosteroid was given to reduce inflammation and it restores balance to the hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal glands. Albuterol would help to open up Charlie's airway but it would also increase his heart rate that is already high.
- PCC** What communication techniques could be initiated to decrease the anxiety of Charlie Snow's aunt? Communication techniques that could be initiated to decrease the anxiety of Charlie's aunt would be using open communication, letting her know the plan and everything you are

* 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/>

giving Charlie. It would also be beneficial to ask her if she has any suggestions to help Charlie feel more at ease.

S/QI Reflect on ways to improve safety and quality of care based on your experience with Charlie Snow's case. Always identify the patient and confirm name and DOB. Always ask about allergies because anaphylaxis could easily happen from a new medication we may be giving the patient.

S/I Because Charlie Snow is accompanied by his aunt and not by a parent, what legal matter must be considered before performing treatment? A signed consent must be completed before performing any kind of treatment.

T&C What role do you feel Charlie Snow's guardians and parents have as members of his health care team? (Explain your answer.) They could advocate for Charlie and may even suggest some lines of treatment to the team because they know Charlie the best since they care for him every day.

T&C/I What key elements would you include in the handoff report for this patient? Consider the situation-background-assessment-recommendation (SBAR) format. I would let the oncoming nurse know what happened to get Charlie into this situation, I would let them know his allergies and that's what caused this to happen, I would let them know my assessments throughout my shift and let them know the latest update, and then I would give them recommendations on how to better care for him and tell them what the doctors recommended.

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? If there were anything I would do differently it would be to call the doctor sooner to get the medications ordered faster. The sooner I would have administered the epinephrine and the Benadryl the better Charlie would have felt and been able to breathe sooner.

Describe how you would apply the knowledge and skills that you obtained in Charlie Snow's case to an actual patient care situation. The knowledge and skills that I have obtained in Charlie Snow's case will help me identify an anaphylactic reaction in a quick manner and I will have an idea to expect what the doctors will order to treat the patient's.