Guided Reflection Questions for Medical Case 2: Jennifer Hoffman

Opening Questions

How did the scenario make you feel?

It made me feel conflicted because I knew I needed to ask a few important questions and take the SpaO2 before providing the patient with oxygen and later with medications. The reason I felt conflicted was because I could see the patient struggling to breath. Now that I've practiced, I would know what to do if a patient started experiencing an asthma attack.

Scenario Analysis Questions*

PCC What assessment findings would indicate that the patient's condition is worsening? **The patients SpaO2 not reaching 92% after oxygen and medications. As well as an ABG lab returning as respiratory acidosis.**

PCC When a patient develops a rapid onset of shortness of breath, what are the nurse's immediate priorities? **Keeping the airway patent, keep the SpaO2 high, and try to keep the patient calm because anxiety or fear can make it worse.**

PCC/I Review Jennifer Hoffman's laboratory results. Identify which results are abnormal and discuss how this relates to her clinical presentation and the disease process. **Her SpaO2 being abnormal could cause it to continue to drop if bronchoconstriction and bronchial edema continue to get worse. This would cause her CO2 to go up causing respiratory acidosis. Her HR is really high causing decrease perfusion throughout the body.**

Concluding Questions

What communication techniques are important for an extremely anxious patient who is having difficulty breathing? **As the nurse it is important to remain calm especially in front of the patient if not it could make the patient more fearful. We should make the patient feel comfortable and safe by letting her know we will take care of her and give her the proper treatment that she needs to make her feel better.**

What patient teaching priorities would be important for the patient who has experienced an acute exacerbation of asthma? **It is important to teach the patient about their medication and how to properly use it. It is also important for the patient to know what triggers her asthma.**

What discharge instructions regarding home medications would you provide the patient related to medications to use to alleviate symptoms of an acute asthma attack? **I think it is important to teach the patient at what times they should be taking their medication and how to be consistent. Also, if patient needed, we could help her make a schedule written down for her to easily follow that works better with her schedule.**

What resources would you recommend for the patient experiencing asthma? **If the patient is struggling to pay for her medications, I could help her find a program that assist her with**

the payment of her medications. If she is not being consist with medications this could be a reason.

What is the importance of the asthma action plan in managing the care of a patient with asthma? **Ask about allergies, making sure to get vital signs, provide oxygen, auscultate lungs, check RR, check capillary refill and pulses such as radial and pedal, and provide medications as well as education.**

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

I had provided oxygen before checking her SpaO2. That is something I would do differently is make sure I am check vital signs before applying oxygen this will confirm if oxygen is needed.

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* *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/*