

## Guided Reflection Questions for Medical Case 2: Jennifer Hoffman

### Opening Questions

How did the scenario make you feel?

I was fairly calm during this scenario. I have experience with asthma treatments and I felt comfortable with this treatment plan.

### Scenario Analysis Questions\*

**PCC** What assessment findings would indicate that the patient's condition is worsening?  
Increased audible wheezing, increased respirations, decreased O<sub>2</sub> sats, increased heartrate, etc.

**PCC** When a patient develops a rapid onset of shortness of breath, what are the nurse's immediate priorities?

Raise the HOB, assess respirations and lung sounds, apply supplemental O<sub>2</sub>

**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 ABGs were abnormal but this can be expected with asthma exacerbations from the hyperventilation and constricted airways (wheezing)

### Concluding Questions

What communication techniques are important for an extremely anxious patient who is having difficulty breathing?

Speak calmly and slowly in a reassuring tone. Do not attempt to teach very much at this point.

What patient teaching priorities would be important for the patient who has experienced an acute exacerbation of asthma?

Teach them to find their triggers, teach them that they may need O<sub>2</sub> for a while in the hospital, and teach about their medications

What discharge instructions regarding home medications would you provide the patient related to medications to use to alleviate symptoms of an acute asthma attack?

Teach them which meds are scheduled use and which are emergency rescue meds

What resources would you recommend for the patient experiencing asthma?

Different pulmonologist/allergy specialists if they need it, support groups, resources to help them if they cannot afford their meds

What is the importance of the asthma action plan in managing the care of a patient with asthma?

If they do not know what to do when they begin to have an asthma exacerbation then they might not be able to treat it when it first begins and it could continue to get worse until they require hospitalization that may have been avoidable.

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

I would begin the albuterol treatment first and then add the ipratropium bromide instead of starting the ipratropium bromide first

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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/>*