

Guided Reflection Questions for Medical Case 2: Jennifer Hoffman

Opening Questions

How did the scenario make you feel?

The scenario made me feel anxious, as even though it was a simulation I honestly could feel the anxiety coming from the patient. This caused me to be extra vigilant but mostly anxious.

Scenario Analysis Questions*

What assessment findings would indicate that the patient's condition is worsening?

If the patient became unresponsive, if O2 didn't improve after implementation of interventions, respiratory efforts still strained.

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

Assess the airway for any obstructions, ensure O2 is properly secured to patients face, make sure HOB is elevated to improve breathing, ask what was happening when patient developed shortness of breath, ensure patient has pulse ox on properly.

Review Jennifer Hoffman's laboratory results. Identify which results are abnormal and discuss how this relates to her clinical presentation and the disease process.

I don't believe Jennifer had any laboratory results, other than her vital signs I assessed and from visual inspection of the patient it was clear she was experiencing respiratory distress.

Concluding Questions

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

Maintain a calm soothing voice when speaking to patient, reassure the patient you are there to help them, stay by the patients' side at all times, explain what you are doing to the patient before doing it.

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

What to do when exacerbation occurs, ensure they have medication on hand and have them demonstrate how to properly use device, help patient figure out what their triggers are (what precipitated the event), if patient is a smoker inquire about desire to quit and refer to support groups as needed.

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 patient which inhaler is a rescuer inhaler vs an everyday inhaler, have patient demonstrate proper usage of inhaler, check to see if patient needs spacer, make sure patient always has rescue inhaler on hand.

What resources would you recommend for the patient experiencing asthma?

I would recommend seeing a pulmonologist since the patient had multiple ER visits recently for exacerbation episodes, I would recommend going to support groups,

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

It helps to keep the patient prepared in case of medical emergencies, and gives them more time to get to an ED to treat the exacerbation. Exacerbations can occur at any time so it's important for the patient to be prepared.

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

I wouldn't do anything differently, I was very happy with the care I provided to my patient.