

Pediatric Case 7: Brittany Long (Core)

Guided Reflection Questions

Opening Questions

How did the simulated experience of Brittany Long's case make you feel?

Describe the actions you felt went well in this scenario.

During this scenario, I felt confident in my ability to perform care and pain management to Brittany, but I also felt a little nervous, and like I didn't quite know what to do next. I was a little confused when I started the scenario, but as time went on I was able to accurately provide care to Brittany to the best of my abilities.

Scenario Analysis Questions¹

- EBP** What is the relationship between fluid and oxygen therapy in the treatment of sickle cell anemia? Oxygen helps keep the cells from forming into the sickle cell shape, and the fluids help slow the process of the sickle cell crisis.
- EBP** What complications might Brittany Long face if her symptoms are not recognized and treated in a timely manner? Brittany could potentially face problems such as stroke, if her symptoms are not treated.
- EBP** What methods of pain management did you use and what other methods should be considered for Brittany Long, based on the latest evidence-based practice? I administered the prescribed dosage of morphine to the patient. I also gave the pt a stuffed animal as a comfort item. I should also use the method of distractions or comfort positions for the child to prevent pain and/or provide comfort.
- PCC/I** What discharge teaching should be provided to assist Brittany Long's mother with her home care? Brittany's mother should be informed of any new medications she is taking, things that trigger crises, general care and appointments that need to be made for Brittany, maintaining a healthy diet for Brittany that is especially rich in calcium-rich foods, maintaining good hydration, as well as early signs and symptoms of an attack.
- S/QI** Reflect on ways to improve safety and quality of care based on your experience with Brittany Long's case. Ways to improve quality of care and safety based on my experience with Brittany's

¹ 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/>

case would be to always have a parent verify not only themselves, but the child's birthdate as well, if the child is young. Another way to improve quality of care and safety would be to ensure that the child is comfortable and that all procedures are explained. This helps prevent the child from becoming more afraid during atraumatic care, therefore improving the quality of care the nursing staff can provide.

T&C/I Identify additional individuals who should be included on Brittany Long's care team. Respiratory therapists, Child Life Specialists, and Physical Therapy are all teams that should be added onto Brittanys Case.

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 include why Brittany came to the ED- the history of severe leg pain for the last two days, I would also include the history of hospitalizations Brittany has had (3 yo and 4 yo), I would give the nurse my assessment of Brittany- daily wt, vitals, skin warm to touch, tender, and 10 out of 10 pain, and I would tell the nurse the medications I prescribed such as the morphine (and time) and the fluids I started and when, I would also tell the nurse that I spoke with the doctor and what new orders he gave me and when I administered the bolus. I would then go assess Brittany with the nurse.

QI Discuss quality-of-care indicators for the management of children with sickle cell disease. Two major quality-of-care indicators for the management of children with sickle cell disease would include pain management and assessing and treating the patient in a timely manner. Pain management would be a priority quality of care indicator for this disease because pain in this disease process is severe and needs to be treated and managed adequately. Assessing and treating the patient in a timely manner would be a top concern and quality of care indicator because if this disease isn't treated/managed quickly, it can lead to fatal incidents such as a stroke.

Concluding Questions

Reflecting on Brittany Long's case, were there any actions you would do differently? If so, what were these actions, and why would you do them differently? Yes, I would have provided the family and the patient with better education whenever possible and communicated better with them better to alleviate any fears or concerns, as well as keeping them informed and knowledgeable about what is happening, the situation, and the disease and factors that the pt is experiencing.

Describe how you would apply the knowledge and skills that you obtained in Brittany Long's case to an actual patient care situation. I would take the knowledge and skills that I obtained in Brittany's case to an actual patient in a care situation by having the knowledge that this patient is critical and needs to be treated quickly. I would also take into consideration the pain that the child is in and treat it as soon as I possibly can. I have gained a much greater understanding of sickle cell anemia and its disease process, as well as how it affects the patient, and knowledge of how to treat it accordingly.