

Pediatric Case 10: Charlie Snow (Complex)

Guided Reflection Questions

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Opening Questions

How did the simulated experience of Charlie Snow's case make you feel?

I honestly was anxious and unsure of each step to take for this patient. I was able to eventually figure out the needs of the patient and how to work the program, but it definitely made me feel nervous as I guided my way through this simulation.

Discuss the actions you felt went well in this scenario.

I felt that once I was able to understand what was going on with the situation and how to respond each step came back to me. I had to take this more than once, but I eventually understood the reasoning behind what moves were wrong and what moves were correct. This best thing that came out of this simulation was more practice, whether or not I struggled through it. I did notice that the simple intervention of repositioning the bed helped Charlie with this breathing. As I moved on with my assessment and decided to place the rebreather, I noticed more improvement. Then the administration of the medications greatly improved this situation, and the patient was able to stabilize.

Scenario Analysis Questions^{*}

EBP List in order of priority your initial nursing actions identified for Charlie Snow based on physical findings and family interaction.

Administer epinephrine and Benadryl, provide oxygen, reposition bed to help dyspnea, bolus IV, monitor respirations.

EBP What complications might Charlie Snow face if symptoms are not recognized and treated in a timely manner?

If Charlie was not treated in a timely manner his airway could close and therefore causing fatal consequences.

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 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/>

Glucocorticosteroids are used to reduce the severity of the reaction and decrease the risk of further reaction. It is not appropriate to administer albuterol because it does not relieve upper airway edema, hypotension, or shock.

PCC What communication techniques could be initiated to decrease the anxiety of Charlie Snow's aunt?

Helping people understand helps the family collaborate with medical staff, which in turn helps patient outcomes and quality of care. It is important to use active listening and having the patient/family do teach back with the nurse to ensure their understanding.

S/QI Reflect on ways to improve safety and quality of care based on your experience with Charlie Snow's case.

It is essential to prioritize your steps of care to provide to most efficient care. It is important to follow safety protocols with every patient and to stay with a patient until they have stabilized. Nurses also need to ensure they are able to ask for help if they did not feel safe to treat a patient or need help understanding. It essential to educate the patient and family members before discharge about safety with food allergies.

S/I Because Charlie Snow is accompanied by his aunt and not by a parent, what legal matter must be considered before performing treatment?

It is my understanding that the medical consent would have to be by proxy with the aunt due to the parents' absence and the emergent nature of this situation.

T&C What role do you feel Charlie Snow's guardians and parents have as members of his health care team? (Explain your answer.)

Collaboration with family members is key to the success and well being of patients. The caretaker of the child is the most knowledgeable and the expert of their day-to-day functions. It is essential that the family provide medical staff with as much information as possible, both past and present, to properly treat Charlie.

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 the patients name, DOB, age, sex, allergies, why the patient came in, the diagnosis, medications/interventions provided, their current diet, IV sites/port sites, vitals, family at bedside, precautions, urine output, code status, activity level, parents concerns, labs, and history that contributes to current situation.

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?

I would have prioritized my care better and tried to use more of my critical thinking skills prior to doing a task. This would have provided more efficient and safer care for the patient.

Describe how you would apply the knowledge and skills that you obtained in Charlie Snow's case to an actual patient care situation.

This simulation helped me reflect on some of the skills and critical thinking I have learned over the past year. Each time we do a simulation or provide care I have learned a great lesson that can help me possibly save a life. The biggest take away from this is to think, assess, be safe, and follow the orders.