

## Pediatric Case 7: Brittany Long (Core)

### Guided Reflection Questions

#### Opening Questions

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

I really liked getting to work through a real-life scenario. At first it was hard to figure it out but after I looked around and figured out where everything was, it was fun to get to take care of the patient.

Describe the actions you felt went well in this scenario.

I felt that I did well in verifying patient information as well as verifying family and allergies. After that I know that the first time was hard to figure out my next step, but I felt like I handled the situation well. I think doing my assessment and vital signs and then giving the pain medication and calling about the dehydration was a good move to make sure the patient was comfortable.

#### Scenario Analysis Questions\*

- EBP** What is the relationship between fluid and oxygen therapy in the treatment of sickle cell anemia? *Acute chest syndrome can occur and can be extremely dangerous. The fluids are important to ensure that dehydration does not cause the patient to go into acute chest syndrome. The oxygen is important to get more oxygen into the blood. When there is not enough oxygen getting to the cells, it causes a blockage which causes ischemia and pain. Oxygen supplementation can increase the oxygen getting to the blood and through the body.*
- EBP** What complications might Brittany Long face if her symptoms are not recognized and treated in a timely manner? *She could face tissue ischemia leading to death of tissue and possible limb removal in the future.*
- 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 used the distraction method as well as repositioning, I think that applying heat could help open up the blood vessels and possibly decrease pain that the vaso-occlusion is causing.*
- PCC/I** What discharge teaching should be provided to assist Brittany Long's mother with her home care? *The patient's mother should be instructed on pain management at home and how to treat*

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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/>

*pain both pharmacologically and nonpharmacologic ways to manage pain. Staying on top of pain management makes it easier to manage the patient's pain*

**S/QI** Reflect on ways to improve safety and quality of care based on your experience with Brittany Long's case. *I was slightly concerned about the morphine and how it would affect her breathing, so constantly monitoring respirations and O2 would have been a good way to ensure no respiratory depression was taking place*

**T&C/I** Identify additional individuals who should be included on Brittany Long's care team.

*Respiratory, dietary, the physician, and child life could all be beneficial to this patient's care.*

**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 patient's age and that they have sickle cell disease, no recent illness, patient stated the pain in her right lower leg started a few days ago, she is on folic acid and the mom gave her acetaminophen at 0600 this morning, the leg is warm to the touch, the patient is on 2 L NC state patient's vitals we gave her 2.4 mg of IVP morphine around 0715 for pain and a bolus for dehydration, the patient stated her pain is now at a 0. She will probably need to be monitored because her respirations did get down to 14, but she is showing no other signs of distress. I would try to get her to drink some fluids and apply a warm compress.*

**QI** Discuss quality-of-care indicators for the management of children with sickle cell disease.

*I would say some quality of care indicators would be pain management in a timely manner, education for the patient and family on pain management. Another could be reassessment of pain to keep pain managed*

### 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?

*I had a hard time trying to decide what to do first, give the morphine for her pain or do my assessment over her dehydration. I think I chose correctly to do vitals, assess pain, give morphine, and then while that was working I could continue monitoring while doing my quick assessment of her hydration and call the doctor all while the pain medication was having time to work.*

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 know that prioritization is key and I think I will know better how to time manage and get what I need done, done and helping the patient as quickly as I can.