

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

### Opening Questions

How did the scenario make you feel?

**This scenario made me feel competent about my bedside nursing skills. I managed to follow to orders and keep my patient's saturation above the recommended level. My only concern was that I thought we needed orders for oxygen above 2 liters.**

### Scenario Analysis Questions\*

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

**Attaching the pulse oximeter greatly helped me on assessing her condition. The lower her saturation got made me perform my interventions quickly. When her oxygen saturation got to the low 80's, I knew immediately to give her albuterol, ipratropium, and increased oxygen volumes.**

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

**It would warrant a quick assessment first, especially on what her condition is. SOB would be an airway problem so acting fast is vital. If the patient had asthma, like in the scenario, it would be imperative to raise her back, give her breathing treatment, and provide oxygen. Attaching a pulse oximeter would also be recommended to assess her oxygenation status.**

**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.

**The patient did not have any laboratory results when I performed my simulation. Low readings on the pulse oximeter, her wheezing, and cyanotic appearance were indicators of respiratory distress, and something had to be done.**

### Concluding Questions

What communication techniques are important for an extremely anxious patient who is having difficulty breathing? **Communicating with a calm and firm voice is important. Having an anxious and unsure tone to the voice would only increase the patient's anxiety. Make sure that we explain the process step by step and keep assuring the patient.**

What patient teaching priorities would be important for the patient who has experienced an acute exacerbation of asthma? **It would be to use their breathing medication as soon as the symptoms start to show. It would also be important to educate them on identifying the triggers of asthma (allergens) and steer clear of them.**

What discharge instructions regarding home medications would you provide the patient related to medications to use to alleviate symptoms of an acute asthma attack? **It would be to use the breathing treatment as recommended. If the symptoms do not get fixed or became worse, go to the nearest emergency care, and seek prompt treatment.**

What resources would you recommend for the patient experiencing asthma? **A visit with a pulmonologist will be recommended. We can also give them printouts of reading resources.**

What is the importance of the asthma action plan in managing the care of a patient with asthma? **This is very important because this it offers as a guide whenever an asthma attack occurs. The patient and his/her caregivers must be oriented and familiar to the plan so everyone can be cognizant of the patient's care.**

What would you do differently if you were to repeat this scenario? How would your patient care change? **I wouldn't do any different. If I could, I would ask the doctor for some set orders of oxygen levels recommended for her. I would not feel comfortable providing increased amounts of oxygen unless an order was set. I can give all the albuterol and ipratropium as the orders stated but if there has been no improvement since, I want a doctor to see the patient quickly. This is an airway concern and it should be treated quickly.**

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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/>*