

Meredith Edwards

Guided Reflection Questions for Surgical Scenario 1: Marilyn Hughes

Opening Phase

How did the scenario make you feel?

Like most Vsim, this situation made me feel unsure of what to do but I just followed the steps and completed this task. There was a challenge of me finding the pedal pulse button which kept setting me back but I finally figured it out and was able to move past the Vsim.

Scenario Analysis Questions*

PCC/EBP/S How would you recognize that Marilyn Hughes' condition was deteriorating?

I was able to recognize that this patient was deteriorating by her reports of pain, assessing pedal pulses, and condition of her extremity.

PCC/S What interventions exist to alleviate compartment syndrome, and what assessments indicate improved perfusion to the extremity?

The nursing intervention would be to perform neurovascular checks, keep the extremity at heart level, loosen the restrictive items and notify the physician.

EBP/S/PCC Why is it important to maintain the limb at heart level versus elevating it above heart level?

Because if you were to elevate it you would decrease the arterial flow and narrow the arterial venous pressure.

PCC/EBP/S What could have happened in this scenario if Marilyn Hughes' condition was not treated expediently?

If this acute condition was not treated quickly there could be permanent damage to the muscle. This could lead to paralysis, disability, or worst-case scenario death.

T&C/PCC/EBP/S What key elements would you include in the handoff report for this patient? Consider the SBAR (situation, background, assessment, recommendation) format.

It would be essential that you tell the oncoming nurse that the patient was experiencing pain and that it has been treated. You would need to let the oncoming nurse know about the nursing interventions you completed to help her be more comfortable and that you contacted the physician.

Concluding Questions

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

care change?

If I was to complete this scenario again I would stop to look at the buttons to find the pedal pulses and recalled my 5 P's better prior to starting.

** 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/>*