

What medications and nursing interventions/treatments will you anticipate?

Post op meds: ampicillin/gentamycin, fentanyl (PRN), fluconazole, midazolam (PRN), Sodium acetate, Zinc oxide/cod liver (topical), dextrose 10% - 250ml w/ Heparin, TPN, Caffeine

How will you know your patient is improving?

Improved motor function
Correction of defect
Improved bladder/bowel function

What are risk factors for the diagnosis?

Maternal diabetes, smoking, certain medications (fatal toxic), malnutrition, previous affected pregnancies, family history, exposure to hazardous materials *folate deficiency*

What are the long-term complications?

Paralysis or long term complications such as loss of sensation to the body parts below the site of the sac. Decreased mobility & muscle weakness, ~~orthopedic~~ orthopedic problems such as scoliosis, contracture, hip dislocation, lack of control of bladder/bowel

What patient teaching for management and/or prevention can the nurse do?

Prevention - folic acid supplements! avoid teratogenic drugs, exposure to smoke & hazardous materials, adequate nutrition
Teaching - surgical correction shortly after birth is recommended & will improve future disabilities & disease