

Madison Proy
Sepsis/Shock Content
Lewis-66
Chandra Barnes, MSN, RN

On-line Content (1hr)

Learning Objectives:

- Discuss care of a patient with sepsis
- Discuss personal attitude about caring for patients with sepsis
- Evaluate methods to assist family members/significant others experiencing life-threatening conditions

Assignment:

Read Lewis Chapter 66

Copy and paste the following website into your search bar:

Watch the short video and read Rory Staunton's story as told by his parents.

Answer the following questions related to sepsis and Rory's story:

1. Discuss how this case makes you feel as a parent or family member.

As a family member this case makes me feel overwhelmingly devastated. The grief of losing a loved one and then also dealing with the guilt that something more could have been done to prevent this would be heart wrenching. I have three young nieces that are like daughters to me and if there were these many failures resulting from an innocent injury during school, I would be furious. It is not the parent's job to know this information and it wasn't their job to prevent sepsis or be aware of the manifestations. They should have been able to trust the school nurse, pediatrician, and other health care staff with their child. It should've been the school nurse knowing

how to prevent infection by cleaning that wound. It should have been the pediatrician looking into the injury and noticing the infection. As a family member I feel terrified that something like this could happen to a loved one of mine. Knowing that I am educated on symptoms of multiple different diseases gives me some peace, but that shouldn't have to be that way. A person with no healthcare background should not have to be worried that since they don't have an educational background that their child is at a greater risk of death from a preventable disease process. I compare it to how you would take your car to an auto shop, and you trust that mechanic to fix your car and notice everything wrong with it and return it fixed. You don't have to know a single thing about cars because you can trust that mechanic to know what he's doing. Healthcare should be the same and Rory was failed by all the people in charge of his care.

2. Discuss how this case makes you feel as a nurse.

As a nurse this makes me feel frustrated and sad. I am frustrated because it was very preventable. I am sad because ignorance costed a young boys life. I am also confused on how it wasn't caught by the health care team. How were his symptoms not noticed. I am sad that a career I am going into has failed and torn a family up so badly. I am scared that one day I might not notice something and be the reason someone's child passes away. Rory's story has touched so many individuals and I can agree that it motivates me to be the best nurse I can be and notice changes in my patients.

3. Discuss the actual or possible "failures" in this scenario.

There were many instances in this scenario that if done differently could have possibly saved this young boys life. The first failure was on the school. After he had sustained a cut the school nurse should have cleaned this cut before bandaging it. The pediatrician the parents took Rory too did not pick up on the signs of his increasing illness which can be considered a failure along with discharging him too soon when he was obviously ill. The healthcare team not listening to the parents' concerns is a failure. A patient's family knows that patient the best, and they know when something is wrong and should be listened to by the healthcare team. The lack of knowledge surrounding sepsis and its symptoms is a failure. The lack of resources at that time regarding sepsis is a failure. Not having a designated protocol for sepsis and its manifestations is a failure. Overall so many things could have been done differently that could have avoided the taking of this young boy's life. There shouldn't have been this much error in Rory's case. If even just

one of these “failures” was reversed, he quite possibly could still be alive today.

4. How will you use what you learned from Rory’s case as a nurse, and how will this information guide your future practice?

I will use what I learned from Rory’s case as a nurse by being vigilant, noticing changes, and remembering that who I am taking care of is somebody loved one. It’s important as a healthcare worker to not look at your patients as room numbers. These patients are people’s grandparents, children, parents, siblings, etc. Showing empathy and doing all you can for your patients as if it was your own loved one in that bed is something I will take from Rory and his story. Rory’s saddening story will guide my practice because it a standing reminder of the duty I have as a registered nurse, and I am what is standing between life and death for my patients.

Place your answers to these questions in the **Unit 8 Shock Dropbox by 0800 on 3/27/2023**. Be prepared to share and discuss your thoughts in class.

In order to receive full credit (1 hour class time) for this assignment, it must be completed in its entirety by the due date/time assigned. Any assignments not completed in its entirety will result in missed class time.