

1. As the critical care nurse caring for her, what overall concerns do you have?

I am concerned about the severe fatigue, weakness, and fever. I am concerned about her medical history of hypertension, hyperlipidemia, diabetes mellitus, and has a chronic foley. She lives alone and has no family which is concerning. I am also concerned that she has not left her bed in a few days due to the weakness and fever.

2. Describe ways in which you would communicate with her and her POA for healthcare. Include what topics you would discuss at this time in her hospitalization.

I would communicate with the patient and include the POA if the patient is unable to answer the questions or becomes confused. A topic to discuss with the patient would be when the POA would be making decisions and what the POA can decide.

3. Discuss the ethical issues this case presents.

Moral distress due to the patient not having any family so she has a friend as the POA. She also knows that she's feeling sick and not well but it took her some time to actually get the help she needs.

4. Discuss the legal issues this case presents.

The patient's rights could be affected as she has her friend as the POA which means she can make the decision when the patient is unable to for herself. I am not sure how close they are and if the POA is aware of the patient's wishes.

5. In what ways will you serve as an advocate for Margaret?

I will support the caregivers that are involved, ensuring that I am aware of the patient's cultural and spiritual beliefs, and I will help the patient through discharge.

6. What other departments would you involve in her care, and why?

I would involve a therapist due to the patient being alone so often, a dietitian due to the patient's eating habits, endocrinologist for the control of the patient's history of diabetes, urology for the patient's chronic foley, occupational therapy to help the patient gain strength, and physical therapy to help the patient with mobility.