

vSIM- Vincent Brody

1. How did the scenario make you feel?

The first time taking the vSIM scenario, I was stressed out and overwhelmed when the patient started complaining of chest pain and “not being able to breathe”. His SpO₂ was decreasing, heart rate was increasing, and his respiratory rate was increasing. Even though I raised the head of the bed, his nasal cannula was attached, and he just had a nebulizer treatment, the patient’s condition was worsening. After calling the provider, I felt a little better because the orders gave me a sense of direction on how to treat the patient. I am still learning the different assessments/interventions options that vSIM gives, but after the second attempt of the vSIM, I felt more comfortable in what I was able to do.

2. When a patient develops a rapid onset of shortness of breath, what are the nurse’s immediate priorities?

Raise the head of the bed, administer oxygen (via nasal cannula), obtain vital signs, and notify the provider.

3. What assessment findings would indicate that the patient’s condition is worsening?

In this scenario’s case, the patient’s SpO₂ was decreasing, while his heart rate and respiratory rate was increasing. The patient was complaining that he was having difficulty breathing despite my interventions to help him breathe better; furthermore, he started to complain of chest pain.

4. What would you do differently if you were to repeat this scenario? How would your patient care change?

I took the scenario two times. After the first time, I realized that I forgot to auscultate the lung sounds and have a chest x-ray done after the chest tube was inserted. However, after my second attempt, I have learned that I should’ve been more vigilant on my patient’s respiratory status and focus solely on that. When first walking into the patient’s room, I was “task-oriented” and just wanted to complete the orders the physician gave; when instead, I should have been more thorough with my assessment and started earlier with providing interventions to help my patient breathe better.