

## Surgical Case 2: Stan Checketts

### Guided Reflection Questions

1. How did the scenario make you feel?
  - a. I felt confident because I was guided by the doctor's orders. I also knew to monitor the patient's vital signs since he showed respiratory distress. I was able to practice assessing the ABC's on the patient so that helped a lot.
2. When reflecting on the care of Stan Checketts, what are signs and symptoms you can assess in the next patient you care for who might be at risk for dehydration?
  - a. Elevated heart rate, low oxygen levels, possible mental changes
3. Discuss signs and symptoms of hypovolemic shock.
  - a. Tachycardia, decreased oxygen perfusion, generalized weakness, decreased or no urine output.
4. Discuss assessment and expected findings in a small bowel obstruction.
  - a. Abdominal pain, abdominal cramping, Nausea, and dehydration
5. What key questions does the nurse ask in an acute abdominal pain assessment?
  - a. Rating the pain on 0-10 numeric scale, describing the pain, how long the pain has been going on, what makes the pain worse, and medication taken to help relieve the pain.
6. In evaluating Stan Checketts' laboratory values, what if any abnormalities did you find?
  - a. Hyponatremia, hyperchloremia, elevated BUN, and elevated creatinine
7. Stan Checketts had a nasogastric (NG) tube inserted for gastric decompression. What are the preferred methods for confirming placement of the NG tube?
  - a. X-ray is used to confirm placement of NG tube
8. What key elements would you include in the handoff report for this patient? Consider the SBAR (situation, background, assessment, recommendation) format.
  - a. I would make sure I include the assessment of vitals, NG tube placement, medication administration, past medical history of Parkinson's and the patient's lab results in the SBAR. I would also include the ECG monitoring and IV solutions being given.
9. What would you do differently if you were to repeat this scenario? How would your patient care change?

- a. I really wouldn't know what to do besides what the doctor ordered. I made sure I monitored his vitals and pain. I also paid attention to the ECG to document any changes. I believe I gave the best care I could.