

Abusive Head Trauma Virtual Simulation

Debriefing Questions

1. How does this assignment relate to the course material?

Pediatric patients may come in after their caregiver accidentally shakes them or drops them. It is vital to know the tell-tale signs of abusive head trauma through an assessment and radiography. This assignment relates nursing diagnoses and interventions to a medical diagnosis of abusive head trauma (AHT) while also providing information about its pathophysiology and treatment. Abusive head trauma is the most common cause of traumatic death in kids less than two years of age. It is also the deadliest form of child abuse (Joyce et al., 2021). Therefore, a nurse needs to understand the proper interventions and goals for a patient suffering from AHT.

2. Identify **three** ways this activity affects nursing practice when caring for the pediatric population.

This activity affects nursing practice by providing education on what abusive head trauma is in the pediatric population, the damage abusive head trauma (AHT) can do to the brain and brain tissues, and nursing interventions for patients with abusive head trauma. AHT preventative education includes teaching parents ways to calm a crying infant, such as turning down the lights, swaddling them, rocking them, making sure they are not sick, not hungry, and not overstimulated. Recognizing risk factors for AHT is of essential importance. The risk factors include being a single parent, being a young parent, substance abuse by parent(s), low socioeconomic status, premature or sick infant, and infants with colic (Ricci et al., 2021).

3. What are some potential health risks (short-term and/or long-term) for a child who sustained an abusive head trauma injury?

Potential short-term health risks for a kid who has sustained an abusive head trauma include retinal hemorrhages, ligature marks, bruising, bulging fontanel, subdural hematoma, and hydrocephalus. Long-term health risks are substantial with AHTs and include vision loss, learning disabilities, weakness, seizures, developmental delays, and hearing loss (Joyce et al., 2021). Over half of children who have experienced AHT will die before turning 21 and have a 55% reduction in quality of life (Joyce et al., 2021). These long-term health risks that the lucky 50% who survive live with reduces quality of life and shows that prevention is the best practice for AHT.

4. Choose one of the health risks identified in the above question and develop a plan of care to address this. Include a Nursing diagnosis, a

measurable goal, and at least three nursing interventions to achieve this goal.

Nursing diagnosis: Risk for injury related to weakness, cognitive limitations, altered consciousness, and epileptic episodes (Ricci et al., 2021).

1. **Measurable Goal: The child will continue to be injury-free as evidenced by no signs of traumatic injury such as bruising (Ricci et al., 2021).**

1. **Intervention 1: Pad the side rails to minimize the risk of injury if epileptic episodes occur (Ricci et al., 2021).**

1. **Intervention 2: Use a protective helmet during epileptic episodes to minimize head trauma from epileptic episodes (Ricci et al., 2021).**

1. **Intervention 3: Remove obstacles, decrease environmental stimuli, and ease the child into a lying position (Ricci et al., 2021).**

5. **How will the knowledge gained during this assignment influence your nursing practice?**

The knowledge gained will help notice possible risk factors in a patient's health history to properly educate parents on relieving stress and reducing the risk of abusive head trauma. Some standard stress-reducing tool useful to parents includes taking a deep breath and counting to ten, placing baby in a safe place like the crib or playpen, and then leaving the room and finding a quiet place (Ricci et al., 2021). Much permanent damage can occur from AHT, so prevention through parent education is the best practice. The specific signs of abusive head trauma when receiving diagnostic imaging will also be of priority.

References

- Joyce, T., Gossman, W., & Huecker, M. R. (2021). *Pediatric abusive head trauma*. Stat Pearls. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK499836/>
- Ricci, S. S., Kyle, T., & Carman, S. (2021). *Maternity and pediatric nursing*. Wolters Kluwer.

Debriefing Journal Rubric

Minimum Words: 100 per question

CRITERIA	POOR	FAIR	GOOD
<p>Concise and Complete</p> <p>Total: 3 points</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Content is incomplete. • Major points are not clear and /or persuasive <p>1 point</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Content is not comprehensive and /or persuasive. • Major points are addressed, but not well supported. • Research is inadequate or does not address course concepts. <p>2 points</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Content is comprehensive, accurate, and persuasive. • Major points are stated clearly and are well supported. • Content and purpose of the writing are clear. <p>3 points</p>
<p>Thoughtful Reflection- How will this affect your practice?</p> <p>Total: 10 points</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper lacks many elements of correct formatting. • Paragraphs are inadequate or excessive in length. • Unspecific as to how simulation meets learning objectives. <p>1 point</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper follows most guidelines. • Paper is under word length. • Lacks some specifics as to how simulation meets learning objectives. <p>5 points</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper follows designated guidelines. • Paper is the appropriate length as described for the assignment. • States clearly as to how simulation meets learning objectives. <p>10 points</p>
<p>APA Format Correct spelling/Grammar.</p> <p>At least 1 scholarly reference required.</p> <p>Each question is answered with at least 100 words</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of APA format. • Paper contains numerous grammatical, punctuation, and spelling errors. • Language uses jargon or conversational tone • Lack of APA citation use and Reference page if references used. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inappropriate APA format. • Paper contains few grammatical, punctuation and spelling errors. • Language lacks clarity or includes the use of some jargon or conversational tone. • Inappropriate APA citation use and reference 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correct APA format • Use of 1 scholarly reference • Rules of grammar, usage, and punctuation are followed; spelling is correct. • Language is clear and precise; sentences display consistently strong, varied structure

<p>Total: 10 points</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2-3 questions do not meet the 100-word requirement <p>1 point</p>	<p>page if references used.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 questions meet the 100-word requirement <p>5 points</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correct APA citation and reference page if references used. • All questions meet the 100-word requirement <p>10 points</p>
<p>Paper submitted to Dropbox within 72 hours of the simulation experience.</p> <p>Total: 2 points</p>			<p>Paper submitted to Dropbox on time.</p> <p>2 points</p>

Total Points: _____