

Abusive Head Trauma Virtual Simulation

Debriefing Questions

1. How does this assignment relate to the course material?
 - a. The Abusive Head Trauma assignment relates to our course material because, in pediatrics, we see quite a few head trauma scenarios. In class, we are made aware of situations where the baby suffers from “shaken baby syndrome,” which is head trauma. By completing this simulation, further knowledge on head traumas was given and explained. Nurses see many abusive head traumas in younger pediatric patients because they are fussy and sometimes inconsolable. Because of this, adults tend to get frustrated easier and shake the baby. This simulation provides nurses with identifiers to look for when trying to determine if an abusive head trauma situation has occurred. Knowledge of the different head traumas is pertinent when correctly identifying what could be the cause of a child’s chief complaint.

2. Identify **three** ways this activity affects nursing practice when caring for the pediatric population.
 - a. Dealing with abusive head trauma cases can be difficult for the nurse. The nurse must be able to assess a patient to identify specific findings. It is difficult for a nurse to assess a potential head trauma case because the child’s caregiver may not always be forthcoming with the correct information. Another way is determining when and if to bring in outside services, like the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS). This decision may be difficult for the nurse to make, seeing as once the caregiver becomes aware of the involvement of DCFS, they may shut down and be even less willing to cooperate. By completing this simulation, the nurse can better know what to look for when assessing a pediatric patient. This simulation gives you knowledge on identifying signs that may not be known to the common eye.

3. What are some potential health risks (short-term and/or long-term) for a child who sustained an abusive head trauma injury?
 - a. Some potential short-term health risks include skull fracture, retinal hemorrhages, and increased intracranial pressure. Regarding long-term health risks, a patient who suffers from head trauma may require long-term physical therapy, occupational therapy, psycho-educational therapy, and possible nursing home care. Education must be given to caregivers to prevent such accidents. Public service announcements are made to bring awareness to reducing abusive head traumas in young children. Many family resource centers and home visit programs engage with high-risk families to spread education on dealing with inconsolable babies and the dangers of shaking a baby (Hung, 2020). Education should be given once a parent learns they are expecting a child or anyone responsible for anyone under the age of five, as head traumas are more common within these age ranges.

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.
 - a. Nursing diagnosis: Acute pain related to head trauma as related to skull fracture (Belleza, 2021).
 - b. Measurable Goal: Patient's pain will be reduced according to the rFLACC or FACES pain scale.
 - c. Intervention 1: Monitor patient's neurological status continuously.
 - d. Intervention 2: Administer pain medications per physician's orders.
 - e. Intervention 3: Maintain head of bed 30-45 degrees.

5. How will the knowledge gained during this assignment influence your nursing practice?
 - a. This assignment has had a significant influence on how I will proceed in my future nursing practice. Completing this simulation has furthered my knowledge of what to look for when assessing potential head trauma cases. This simulation has given me the tools to assess a child and determine if there is a need for the Department of Child and Family Services to get involved. This simulation has opened my eyes when it comes to trying to gain more information from a caregiver. In some cases, some caregivers may not be so forthcoming about explaining what happened to the child and why they are suffering from a head trauma issue.

References

- Belleza, M. (2021, February 20). *Fracture Nursing Care Management: Study Guide*. Nurseslabs. https://nurseslabs.com/fracture/#nursing_interventions.
- Hung, K. (2020, June). *Pediatric abusive head trauma*. Biomedical journal. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7424091/>.

Total: 10 points	1 point	5 points	10 points
<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. • 2-3 questions do not meet the 100-word requirement <p style="text-align: center;">1 point</p>	<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 page if references used. • 3 questions meet the 100-word requirement <p style="text-align: center;">5 points</p>	<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 • Correct APA citation and reference page if references used. • All questions meet the 100-word requirement <p style="text-align: center;">10 points</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Total: 10 points</p> <p>Paper submitted to Dropbox within 72 hours of the simulation experience.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Total: 2 points</p>			<p>Paper submitted to Dropbox on time.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2 points</p>

Total Points: _____