

Reflective Case Study Gerontology Assignment:

ATI: Nurse's Touch 2.0: The Communicator 2.0 Video Interaction: Client Comfort and End of Life Care

Kristina Rentrop

Lakeview College of Nursing

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#### **What was learned from this scenario?**

The student learns of the complex family interactions during end-of-life care. The conflicting views of care develop among various family members. Research reveals that the client's family feels obligated to participate in end-of-life care (Kato & Tamura, 2020). The conflicting views result in difficulty in decision-making for end-of-life care.

#### **Identify the biggest takeaways.**

##### **a) Explain the factors that influenced this decision.**

The student focuses on maintaining the client's autonomy related to family interaction and medication. The nurse demonstrates autonomy by addressing the client while asking questions related to care. A study reveals a significant component of palliative care to be maintaining client autonomy regarding activity, medication, and spiritual practice (Houska & Loučka, 2019). Involving the client in end-of-life decisions demonstrates autonomy.

#### **What are some of the main problems or key issues expressed in the scenario?**

The environment is disruptive for allowing the client to rest. The family is creating a disruptive environment by disputing care and disrupting rest. According to research, the nurse's role in end-of-life care focuses on assessing needs (Huisman et al., 2020). The nurse's assessment of the client reflects the need for rest.

#### **What were some of the challenging decisions the nurse needed to make?**

##### **a) Describe the rationale behind these decisions.**

The needs of the family and the client challenge the nurse's role as caregiver. The nurse uses therapeutic communication to reveal familial and client needs. As an advocate of the client, the nurse must acknowledge the family while honoring the client's wishes—the rationale of the nurse's decisions focuses on the client's needs.

**What factors influenced the nursing decisions and responses during the scenario?**

- a) Explain the response.**
- b) How will a nurse respond if this scenario presents again in the future?**

The nurse identifies the family as a current hindrance to the client's rest. After assessing the client, the nurse provides a calm environment for the client at the end of life by suggesting rest periods. The nurse's role during end-of-life care includes assessment and providing care based on the assessment (Szadek & van der Heide, 2020). The nurse advocates for the client's well-being by suggesting a rest period.

The nurse faces differing spiritual perspectives related to the client's care. As an advocate, the nurse addresses the client regarding the care. The nurse practices autonomy by addressing the client. The client clarifies her spiritual preference of the client for care.

If this scenario presents again in the future, the nurse directs questions toward the client. The nurse assesses the needs and preferences of the client. Therapeutic communication with family regarding the aspects of care facilitates the best care. The nurse continues to advocate for client needs through best care practices.

**Have similar situations been experienced in current clinical rotations?**

- a) How did nursing or others respond to the situation? Please explain.**
- b) Describe successful communication strategies used or experienced in the clinical setting.**

The nurse enters a client's room to administer medication. The nurse performs the rights of medication administration as the interaction begins with the terminally ill client. The client refuses the medication. The nurse then observes the right to refuse and uses therapeutic listening. Therapeutic communication facilitated a trusting nurse-client relationship and demonstrated autonomy.

Nurses use therapeutic listening and offer to spend time with the client for communication. The nurse offers to revisit the client to assess for medication needs. End-of-life experiences are individualized based on needs and desires (Eliopoulos, 2021). The nurse uses therapeutic communication to provide personalized care.

**Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of having families discuss treatment options, including end-of-life decisions before a loved one becomes ill or early in a terminal illness.**

The presence of the family will provide comfort for the client. The family sits with the client and provides therapeutic listening. The client is challenged with many obstacles during end-of-life, including despair. The client is comforted by the love and support of the family.

The presence of the family burdens the client through distress. The client becomes withdrawn due to the family's unease. The communication between the nurse and client diminishes during times of distress. Poor communication results in less effective client care.

## References

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