

ATI: Video Case Study Palliative and Hospice Care

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How can the nurse ensure that a client receiving palliative/hospice care is kept comfortable? What are some ways that the nurse could provide for the psychosocial and spiritual comfort of the client?

A nurse can ensure that a client receiving palliative/ hospice care is kept comfortable by making sure their pain level is low and addressing any concerns that the patient may have. Patients in hospice want to be heard and not in pain. A nurse can provide spiritual comfort by knowing their patient's religion and how they would like their religious rituals performed.

How can the nurse provide support for the family/loved ones of the dying client?

A nurse can support the dying patient's family or loved ones by being there for them. A nurse can use therapeutic communication when providing support. Silence and active listening are essential therapeutic communication styles that a nurse can benefit from. The nurses should focus on the patient's family and help them deal with their grief.

What feelings occurred when interacting with a person with a life-limiting illness?

When dealing with a life-limiting illness, a nurse might feel helpless for the patient. It is challenging to tell someone that they are dying, but one must remember that the nurse's communication will help the patient and the nurse. There is not an easy way to tell someone that they are dying, but it does make things easier to have someone to talk to and be able to express their feelings.

Were the feelings or emotions adequately handled?

The client handled the news well and used the nurse for support. The nurse was an active listener and let the patient express their feelings. The patient felt like the nurse was hearing them. The silence was therapeutic communication because it allowed the patient to speak.

Was there adequate communication with the ill person?

The nurse informed the sick patient of what was happening and allowed her to voice any questions or concerns. The patient asked multiple questions and allowed the nurse to discuss each question diligently. The communication was therapeutic, giving the patient a better understanding of what was happening.

How did the person with the life-limiting illness feel during their interactions?

The person with the life-limiting illness was upset and felt helpless. The patient felt there was nothing she could do or say to make this pain disappear. The nurse sat with her and let her speak. The nurse comforted the patient by just sitting beside her and not feeling alone.

Could the interactions have been improved in any way? How?

The nurse could have improved the interaction by not showing her emotions to the patient and knowing when it was best to use silence. It is difficult for the nurse not to show her emotions when discussing a life-limiting illness. The nurse did an excellent job being there for her patient. Answer questions completely.