

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?

- Clinicians must give complete care to patients and their families through hospice and palliative care. Such consideration includes spiritual, physical, emotional, and psychosocial care (Burles et al., 2021). Although spiritual concerns for adult patients in hospice and palliative care have received much attention, palliative care has gone chiefly unnoticed (Burles et al., 2021). When providing hospice and palliative care as part of an interprofessional team to provide holistic care to the client and the family might serve in many different roles. Nurses can assess the client and implement pharmacological and non-pharmacological interventions as the care coordinator could work directly with the interprofessional team to meet the client's needs. Also, coordinate the care of other nursing team members regarding treatments, care options, and what to expect as death approaches. If the client or family needs spiritual support, advocate for them by contacting a spiritual support person. Many clients and their families find comfort in having spiritual support personnel as part of the interprofessional team. Other team members, such as volunteers or massage therapists, can help with the client's needs and wishes. Volunteers can assist with household chores and meal preparation. Massage therapists can provide non-pharmacological treatment of manifestations, while others

may provide alternative or complementary therapies. The interprofessional team can provide holistic hospice and palliative care to the client and family.

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

- The nurse can support the family by giving them a chance to pass through the stages of grief (George et al., 2022). Also, allowing the family to be part of the caregiving process can give them a sense of closure. The nurse can advocate for the patients by helping them seek answers that might help with religious spirituality and comfort.

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

- Effective communication is one of the most crucial elements of providing high-quality treatment (George et al., 2022). Awareness of the many communications needs of patients and those close to them may help both groups. Also, when interacting with clients and families with a life-threatening illness, showing sympathy by listening and communicating is essential.

Were the feelings or emotions adequately handled?

- Yes, the feelings or emotions were adequately handled. When taking care of a person with a life-threatening illness, it is essential to have compassion. As a nurse, our job is to have open-minded and be a good listeners at the end of life. As a team, we can listen to the clients, make them as comfortable as possible, and advocate (Burles et al., 2021).

Was there adequate communication with the ill person?

- Yes, there was adequate communication with the ill person. As a nurse, it is essential to communicate with the patient and let them know what is going on before doing anything, even if the patient cannot speak (Burlles et al., 2021).

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

- The person with the life-limiting illness feels grateful during their interactions. An inadequate understanding of the prognosis is common to unfavorable outcomes among patients with advanced life-limiting diseases. When facing a life-limiting illness, clients could start to worry about what is going on, feel helpless, or experience fear of the unknown. This is relatively frequent and might result in unpleasant emotions like sadness, frustration, anxiety, and depression (George et al., 2022).

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

- A palliative care nurse may be in charge of various duties, such as keeping an eye on patients, managing pain, dispensing medication, maintaining equipment, and giving patients personal care, including bathing and clothing (George et al., 2022). The nurse did a great job keeping the client and the patient comfortable in this scenario.

Reference

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