

Reflective Case Study Gerontology Assignment:

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

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

This scenario discussed how to communicate with a patient at the end of life. A nurse would be able to know how to relay information to the patient therapeutically, further establishing open communication with the family as well.

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

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

Some of the biggest takeaways from this scenario were how to provide therapeutic care for a patient in end-of-life care and, further, understanding the individuals involved in providing the best care for the client.

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

One of the daughters was not ready to give up on her mother. There was a difference of opinion on the plan of care. They did not know if they wanted their mother to take pain medication to help ease her pain or reduce the amount of medication she consumes.

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

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

These were needed to make the right therapeutic communication choices. While the family continued to discuss the arrangements for the hospital chaplain, it was best to remain silent. This demonstrated active listening; the nurse takes in the information they are saying, conveying an open attitude towards them.

**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?**

Factors influencing the nursing decisions and responses during the scenario were the client's condition and family. The client was in distress when the children were making too much. The nurse asked the family to try to reduce stimulation by having the children visit for very short visits. The client was able to have some peace and relaxation.

**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.**

During clinical, an older patient in the emergency department presented after being found in the restroom. After attempts at CPR and asystole remained, the time of death was called. The nurse contacted the chaplain, who presented with his wife and son. The nurse had to prep the body for viewing.

**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 advantage of having the family discuss is that a weaker client can have assistance and relief from the stress of making their decision. The disadvantage of having the family discuss treatment options is that they are not the client and need to understand the client's complete feelings. Furthermore, in this scenario, the family members had different opinions about things, which can cause confusion and stress for the client.