

Clinical assignment for September 16th

Discussion Questions

Is the setting appropriate to care for this client? Why or why not?

Yes, the setting is appropriate to care for this client. The environment should be conducive to learning and comfortable for the client, ensuring minimal distractions and providing the necessary resources for education and support. She was placed in a single room that promotes comfortability while recovering.

• What considerations (culture, literacy, religious, diet, economic, education, pronouns, gender identity, etc.) should you address when caring for this client?

Ensure that the clear liquid diet aligns with the client's cultural dietary practices and preferences, while also following diet orders. Provide educational materials about surgical incisions in a way that matches the client's literacy level, using clear and simple language. Consider the client's economic situation to ensure they have access to affordable follow-up care. Offer detailed and understandable education about caring for surgical incisions, including signs of infection and proper cleaning techniques.

• What resources or supplies will you need when caring for this client?

- NG tube (appropriate size for the client)
- Lubricant for tube insertion
- pH strips to confirm placement
- Syringes for flushing and administering medications
- Feeding formula or clear liquids, if required
- Suction equipment, if necessary
- Sterile gloves
- Antiseptic solution for cleaning the site
- Sterile dressings and bandages
- Adhesive tape
- Scissors
- Pain management medications, if prescribed
- Instructions for signs of infection and wound care
- Hand sanitizer
- Disposable gloves

- Waste disposal bags
- Documentation tools for recording observations and care provided

Clinical Judgement Questions

Questions must be answered completely (at least a paragraph and if you use outside sources please reference the sources) Upload to drop box

Recognize Cues (Assessment)

- Was the report effective for you to care for this client?

No, the report was not fully effective in providing all the necessary information to care for this client. It was missing critical details such as the last administration of medications, lab results, and diagnostic results. Additionally, there was no information provided about the IV site or the assessment findings. These elements are essential for comprehensive care and ensuring that all aspects of the client's health and treatment plan are thoroughly understood and managed.

- What information is missing from the scenario and is needed to effectively care for the client? ^
- What information was relevant to the client's condition?

The relevant information to the client's condition included how the surgery went, which provides insight into their current recovery status and any potential complications. Additionally, understanding the client's religious factors is crucial as it can influence their dietary restrictions, medical decisions, and overall comfort. Lastly, the need for outside lifestyle education is important to ensure the client can manage their condition effectively once they leave the healthcare setting, including wound care, medication adherence, and any necessary lifestyle adjustments to support their recovery.

- What subtle changes did you recognize in the client's condition? What condition

The client was improving and tolerating her diet well, along with increasing activity levels, which are positive signs of recovery. However, she experienced some nasal discomfort with the NG tube, indicating a need for further assessment and potential adjustment to ensure her comfort and well-being during the recovery process.

Were the subtle changes in the client's health status related to? ^

Analyze Cues (Analysis)

- Compare the client findings to the evidence-based resources and standards of care.

Comparing the client's findings to evidence-based resources and standards of care, her improvement in diet tolerance and increased activity levels align well with typical recovery trajectories post-surgery. However, the nasal discomfort with the NG tube suggests a need to review and possibly adjust the tube

placement or provide additional interventions to alleviate discomfort, as recommended by best practices in NG tube management.

- What are the specific needs of this client?

Based on the client's condition and the information provided, the specific needs of this client include managing the nasal discomfort associated with the NG tube, ensuring continued improvement in diet tolerance and activity levels, and addressing any potential complications that may arise during the recovery process.

- What are the potential complications this client may experience?

The potential complications this client may experience could include issues related to the nasal discomfort from the NG tube, challenges in maintaining adequate nutrition and hydration, and risks associated with post-surgical recovery such as infections or delayed wound healing.

- What findings are of immediate concern for this client?

The findings of immediate concern for this client include the nasal discomfort caused by the NG tube, as it could lead to further irritation or complications if not addressed. Additionally, ensuring that the client continues to tolerate her diet and maintain her increasing activity levels without any setbacks is crucial.

Prioritize Hypotheses (Analysis)

- Identify and rank the top three problems for this client. Provide a rationale for your decision on the rank order.

Monitoring airway, breathing, and circulation is the most critical as it ensures the client's immediate safety and well-being. Wound management is essential for preventing infections and promoting proper healing. Providing education about opioids is important but ranks slightly lower in urgency compared to the other two issues.

Generate Solutions (Planning)

- What interprofessional health care team member will need to be included in establishing a plan of care?

Home Health Nurse: They will provide ongoing monitoring, administer medications, and assist with wound care and any other necessary medical support at home.

GI Consult (Gastroenterologist): They will manage and monitor any gastrointestinal issues, especially related to the NG tube, and ensure proper nutritional support.

Therapy Services: This includes physical therapists to help with mobility and activity levels, and possibly occupational therapists to assist with daily living activities and ensure a smooth recovery process.

Take Actions (Implementation)

- Identify the nursing actions that should be taken based on the prioritized client problems.

1. Keep a close eye on the client's oxygen saturation (SpO₂) continuously to monitor respiratory status and ensure adequate oxygenation.
 2. Perform regular respiratory assessments to monitor breathing patterns, lung sounds, and overall respiratory function.
 3. Conduct skin assessments to check for any signs of breakdown, irritation, or pressure injuries, especially around the NG tube insertion site.
 4. Perform wound assessments to monitor the healing progress, check for signs of infection, and ensure proper wound care.
 5. Evaluate fluid and electrolyte levels to maintain balance.
 6. Conduct gastrointestinal assessments to monitor the functioning of the GI system, especially in relation to the NG tube and nutrition intake.
 7. Evaluate the effectiveness of pain medications to ensure adequate pain management while monitoring for any adverse effects or complications.
- Identify the potential impact the nursing action has on the client outcomes.

The nursing actions mentioned have a significant impact on client outcomes. Continuous monitoring of oxygen saturation (SpO₂) and respiratory assessments can help in early detection of respiratory distress, ensuring prompt intervention and preventing complications. Skin and wound assessments aid in preventing skin breakdown and infections, promoting proper healing. Evaluation of fluid and electrolyte levels contributes to maintaining the client's overall health and preventing imbalances. Gastrointestinal assessments help in ensuring proper functioning of the GI system and nutritional support. Lastly, assessing the effectiveness of pain medications is crucial for adequate pain management, enhancing the client's comfort and overall well-being.

Evaluate Outcomes (Evaluation)

- What responses by the client would indicate that the nursing actions were effective?

The client's improved oxygen saturation levels, stable respiratory status, healthy skin integrity, progressing wound healing, balanced fluid and electrolyte levels, well-functioning gastrointestinal system, and effective pain management with reduced pain levels would indicate that the nursing actions were effective.

- What are the safety concerns you identified caring for the client(s)?

Based on the client's conditions and the nursing actions required, some safety concerns to consider when caring for the client include the risk of respiratory distress or compromised airway, potential skin breakdown due to immobility or medical devices like NG tubes, the possibility of infection in wounds, the need for careful monitoring of fluid and electrolyte levels to prevent imbalances, the importance of GI function for adequate nutrition and medication absorption, and the necessity of proper pain management to ensure the client's comfort.

Reflection Questions

Questions must be answered completely (at least a paragraph and if you use outside sources please reference the sources) Upload to drop box

Evaluate your ability to care for the client(s). What did you do well, and what could have been improved?

- Discuss what information you would need to know prior to caring for this client if you could do this over.

Understanding the client's past and current medical conditions, allergies, and any previous surgeries or treatments. Information on the client's nutritional needs and any dietary restrictions. Understanding the client's pain levels and the effectiveness of current pain management strategies. Assessing the client's ability to move and perform daily activities. Information about the client's support system at home, including family or caregivers. Considering the client's cultural, religious, and personal preferences that might affect their care.

- What do you know now that you did not know prior to completing this case?

After completing this case, I've gained a deeper understanding of the specific safety concerns that need to be addressed in client care, such as the importance of continuous monitoring for respiratory distress, the necessity of preventing skin breakdown, and the critical role of balancing fluid and electrolyte levels. Additionally, I've learned how crucial it is to assess the effectiveness of pain management strategies and ensure proper gastrointestinal function.

- How will this experience change the way you care for clients in the future?

This experience will definitely influence my approach to client care in the future. I'll place a greater emphasis on thorough initial assessments, ensuring that I gather all necessary information about the client's medical history, current medications, and baseline vital signs. Additionally, I'll be more vigilant in monitoring potential complications, such as respiratory distress or skin breakdown, and will prioritize effective pain management and nutritional support.

- Describe what you learned and how you will learn from this experience. ^