

Discussion Questions

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

Yes, the setting is appropriate to care for the client based on needing blood glucose stabilization and his recent assessment of oxygen level, crackles in his lungs, edema, cool skin, and previous heart issues.

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

Considerations for this client include the patient's diet, which should be diabetic, and understanding that the client is unmarried, and his sister is his power of attorney.

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

A vital machine, glucometer, and medications are necessary to care for this client.

Clinical Judgement Questions

Questions must be answered completely (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 completely effective.

- What information is missing from the scenario and is needed to effectively care for the client?

The pain level of the client was not included in the report.

- What information was relevant to the client's condition?

The blood glucose level, HgA1C, past medical history, and vital signs were all relevant to the client's condition.

- What subtle changes did you recognize in the client's condition? What condition were the subtle changes in the client's health status related to?

Subtle changes in the client include a drop in oxygen level from 94% to 88%, the lungs now having fine crackles, edema present, the pulse is not as strong, irregular rhythm in the heart sounds, and his skin is now cool to the touch. The changes are most likely related to his heart issues.

Analyze Cues (Analysis)

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

The client's findings indicate an acute myocardial infarction along with uncontrolled type II diabetes. The standard of care for myocardial infarction includes the proper medications along with cardiac catheterization (Pendyal et. al., 2023).

- What are the specific needs of this client?

The client's specific needs are continuous glucose monitoring along with his diabetic medications, and blood pressure monitoring along with antiplatelet medication. His diet will also need to be a diabetic diet.

- What are the potential complications this client may experience?

Potential complications the client may experience include further heart damage caused by his uncontrolled type II diabetes along with other organs and extremities being affected by his uncontrolled diabetes.

- What findings are of immediate concern for this client?

Immediate concerns for this client include his drop in oxygen level, crackles in his lungs, irregular heart rhythm, the edema that is now present, the drop in his pulse rate, and his skin now being cool to the touch.

Prioritize Hypotheses (Analysis)

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

The top three priorities for this patient are:

- 1. Stabilizing his heart issue*
- 2. Controlling his blood sugars to prevent further complications with his heart*
- 3. Adherence to his medication of any diabetic or heart medication as prescribed and education on lifestyle changes that are needed*

The stabilization of his heart issue is number one because he can immediately die if that is not taken care of. Number two, controlling his blood sugar will help

with recovery and with prevention of further complications. Number three, adhering to his medication, and continuing to control his blood sugar through diet and exercise are important for his ongoing health.

Generate Solutions (Planning)

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

The client's interprofessional healthcare team members should include a cardiologist, endocrinologist, and a dietitian.

Take Actions (Implementation)

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

The nursing action that should be taken based on the prioritized client problems is notifying the physician of the client's trending vitals and assessment, administering medication as prescribed, checking blood glucose levels, and educating the patient on the importance of his medication and lifestyle changes.

- Identify the potential impact the nursing action has on the client outcomes.

The potential impact the nursing action has on the client outcomes includes stopping the progression of heart damage by administering medications and keeping blood glucose levels stable through glucose monitoring and medication administration. This will help improve the outcome for the client.

Evaluate Outcomes (Evaluation)

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

The responses by the client that would indicate that the nursing actions were effective are his vital signs will return to normal with no pain and his glucose level will remain within normal range.

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

The immediate safety concerns for this patient are his heart issues, oxygen level, and blood pressure reading.

Reflection Questions

Questions must be answered completely (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?

My ability to care for the client was good. I understood the importance of the issues with the client's heart and maintaining his glucose within normal limits. I also saw the subtle changes in his vital signs that signaled his health was trending downward.

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

I would need to know the client's pain level, a more in-depth past medical history along with his family history.

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

I wouldn't say that I didn't know this, but I was able to recall the interconnection between the two conditions of type II diabetes and myocardial infarction after completing this activity. Poor glucose control can worsen the condition and the outcome.

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

This experience will change the way I care for clients in the future by knowing to watch for even the subtlest signs during an assessment of a client and being proactive can greatly affect the outcome of the situation. I can also prioritize early prevention to prevent worse outcomes.

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

I learned that critical thinking, proactive care, collaboration with other medical professionals, and client education are essential to the best health outcome for the client.

References

Pendyal, A., Rothenberg, C., Scofi, J. E., Krumholz, H. M., Safdar, B., Dreyer, R. P., & Venkatesh, A. K. (2020). National trends in emergency department care processes for acute myocardial infarction in the united states, 2005 to 2015. *Journal of the American Heart Association*, 9(20). <https://doi.org/10.1161/jaha.120.017208>