

Discussion Questions

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

Yes, this is an appropriate setting. The setting is in the hospital in the client's room.

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

When caring for this client, some considerations are culture, living situation, education, diet, and personal health beliefs.

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

Supplies such as basic nursing care items (stethoscope, pen light, etc) are needed, as well as resources like an EKG machine, oxygen mask, vitals machine, and access to the provider, dietician, cath lab, etc.

Clinical Judgement Questions

Recognize Cues (Assessment)

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

I felt like a lot was left out of report. A lot of other information was needed during report to properly care for this client.

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

Many items, such as the client's past and current health status, their code status, labs, and much more was left out.

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

Vital signs, lab values, assessment data, and medical history 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?

Changes to the client's vital signs (decreased O2, temp, pulse, RR, BP), crackles of auscultation, diaphoresis, edema, irregular heart rhythm, the client feeling hot were all changes to the condition. These were indicative of the client's MI.

Analyze Cues (Analysis)

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

Typical MI signs include anxiety or a feeling of impending doom, chest pain (squeezing/crushing/heavy), nausea, vomiting, indigestion, dizziness, diaphoresis, and jaw/shoulder/back pain (typically in women). The initial treatment for an MI is the MONA protocol, which is morphine, oxygen, nitroglycerin, and aspirin. This client experienced heartburn, elevated blood pressure, decreased oxygen saturation, crackles, irregular heart rhythm, edema, decreased pedal pulses, and diaphoretic skin.

- What are the specific needs of this client?

Hemodynamic support, cardiac catheterization, and education are all needed.

- What are the potential complications this client may experience?

Heart failure, cardiogenic shock, ischemic mitral regurgitation, and dysrhythmias are all potential complications for an MI. HTN, MI, CVA, diabetic retinopathy, diabetic neuropathy, diabetic nephropathy, sexual dysfunction, periodontal disease, infection, hypoglycemia, DKA, or HHS are all potential complications of diabetes mellitus type 2.

- What findings are of immediate concern for this client?

Heartburn, blood pressure, oxygen saturation, crackles, irregular heart rhythm, edema, decreased pedal pulses, and diaphoretic skin.

Prioritize Hypotheses (Analysis)

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

1. Oxygen saturation – airway and breathing are always first concern in a patient who is awake and has a pulse.
2. Irregular heart rhythm – cardiovascular status is the next most important concern. If the heart rhythm is irregular on auscultation, an ECG should be obtained to determine the rhythm and what should be done.
3. Blood pressure elevation and edema – this indicates the body is retaining fluid or that the heart isn't pumping effectively.

Generate Solutions (Planning)

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

Cardiology, case management, PharmD, social work, pain specialist, cardiac rehab, and a dietician are all needed for an MI and follow-up.

Take Actions (Implementation)

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

Oxygen should be placed, nitroglycerin and aspirin should be given, an IV should be obtained if not already done, morphine should be given, and an ECG should be done. VS q5min until stable then q1hr, cardiac monitoring, serial ECG, pain assessment, I/O, and labs.

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

The oxygen will provide better oxygenation to the cardiac tissue, nitro and morphine will open up the vessels, and aspirin thins the blood.

Evaluate Outcomes (Evaluation)

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

Lessening pain, easier breathing, and less anxiety.

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

Fall risk, the potential for a code, bleeding precautions, and potential airway/oxygen issues.

Reflection Questions

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

I felt like more information was needed in a real scenario to care for this client. I think I did okay at answering the questions and understanding their potential issues, but I would have asked for more information or done more for the assessment when the client's condition changed.

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

Many items, such as the client's past and current health status, their code status, and labs.

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

Patients taking clopidogrel should take acetaminophen instead of ibuprofen.

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

I will be more aware of subtle changes in condition that may indicate an MI.

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

I learned a lot about MI and diabetes, the specific care for these situations, and when to hold certain medications.