

Pediatric Case 1: Jackson Weber

Guided Reflection Questions

Opening Questions

How did the simulated experience of Jackson Weber's case make you feel?

It was a little overwhelming trying to ensure all safety measures were being made before, during, and after the seizure. The initial focused assessment had me worried, and I wanted to make sure I covered the important areas. When caring for a patient with seizure activity, I can understand how stressful it can be because one never knows when a seizure can take place.

Describe the actions you felt went well in this scenario.

I was able to perform a quick, but thorough focused assessment. When the client was experiencing seizure activity, I was able to quickly think of the correct positioning, and other seizure safety measures that needed to take place. I ensured a patent airway right away, as it is the most crucial safety measure. After the seizure, the assessment was focused on the neurological effects to determine if any damage was done. I ensured the client's vital signs remained within normal limits, and contacted the provider when needed. Education was given to the client and relative when needed.

Scenario Analysis Questions¹

EBP/S What priority problem did you identify for Jackson Weber?

The priority problem for Jackson Weber was management of his seizures.

EBP What complications might Jackson Weber face if safety precautions are not taken during the seizure activity and if treatment is not implemented after the seizure?

¹ The Scenario Analysis Questions are correlated to the Quality and Safety Education for Nurses (QSEN) competencies: Patient-Centered Care (PCC), Teamwork and Collaboration (T&C), Evidence-Based Practice (EBP), Quality Improvement (QI), Safety (S), and Informatics (I). Find more information at: <http://qsen.org/>

He could experience impaired airway clearance, which could cause respiratory distress or aspiration. Jackson could also experience a trauma injury if safety hazards are not removed from the area.

PCC What should the nurse teach Jackson Weber's mother regarding the ongoing care of his condition?

The importance of medication compliance needs to be taught. The appointments with the neurologist need to be more frequent, or as scheduled to ensure medication compliance, but also to have lab draws to ensure the medication is within the therapeutic range.

PCC/S What seizure precautions should be taken by the nurse in anticipation of and at the onset of Jackson Weber's seizure? How might such precautions vary from hospital to hospital?

The nurse should keep the area clear of any safety hazards. The bed should be in the lowest position to ensure client safety. Suctioning and oxygen need to remain at the bedside in case of impaired airway clearance. The bedrails need to be padded in case of a seizure so the client does not sustain any injuries. All hospitals vary in their protocols, and seizure precautions could be one of them. A hospital may not require the bed to have padded bedrails, but another might. One hospital may require a padded mat on the floor beside the bed for extra safety.

PCC/S Describe strategies to empower Jackson Weber and his mother in the management of his seizures.

Jackson could wear a medical alert bracelet at all times, and carry his antiepileptic medication with him. If the seizure is idiopathic or non-idiopathic, Jackson and his mother could learn what triggers the seizures so they could be avoided. Learning the signs and symptoms of seizures can empower Jackson and his mother so they could be alert and understand when 911 needs to be called. Learning the safety measures, such as putting Jackson in a side-lying position or not putting anything in his mouth during a seizure, could empower Jackson and his mother. Jackson and his mother should acknowledge the need for Jackson not to wear restrictive clothing in case of a seizure—this could cause an impaired airway.

T&C List potential team members in Jackson Weber's care. (Explain your answer.)

The neurologist—seizures are caused by brain activity, which would require the assistance of a medical provider that specializes in the brain.

Hospitalist—this provider will observe Jackson's overall well-being for the entirety of his hospital stay.

PT/OT—the need for physical and occupational therapy is needed after seizure activity to ensure the patient can see perform his normal activities as before the seizure. These therapies will help ensure Jackson keeps his strength while his in the hospital.

Case management—Jackson’s mother is a single mom, and the only source of income. Case management could find resources that could help Jackson’s mother to lessen the worry of financial restrictions.

Speech pathologist—a speech pathologist will ensure Jackson is not experiencing any deficits with swallowing, language, or cognitive communication.

Dietician—the dietician will ensure Jackson is consuming the correct diet to give him optimal nutrition.

Assistive personnel—a care partner, or CNA, will help the nurse take care of the client’s needs such as ambulating, bathing, feeding, and providing emotional support.

Laboratory technicians—Jackson needs routine blood draws to ensure his medication is at therapeutic levels.

Pharmacists—a pharmacist will ensure Jackson is getting the correct dose of his medication, to prevent overdosing or underdosing. The pharmacist will also ensure all the medications do not cause a reaction by interacting with one another.

T&C/I What key elements would you include in the handoff report for this patient? Consider the situation-background-assessment-recommendation (SBAR) format.

I would include:

- Client’s name and age
- Current diagnosis/problem: seizure mangement
- Past medical history: diagnosed with generalize seizure disorder 2 years ago, and has been seizure free up until last night.
- Current medications: is prescribed phenobarbital, has an IV in left arm that is infusing D5 normal saline plus 20 mEq KCL/L at 58 mL/hr.
- Allergies
- Latest vital signs and if any supplemental oxygen is being used
- Any safety precuations needed, such as supplemental oxygen or suctioning: seizure precautions

Concluding Questions

Reflecting on Jackson Weber's case, were there any actions you would do differently? If so, what were these actions, and why would you do them differently?

I should have assess the client's pain level during the initial focused assessment. I needed to assess the pain level to ensure the client's comfort and rule out other issues. I should have asked about allergies. Allergies need to be identify to ensure no reaction occurs with any current or future medications. I would not have given supplemental oxygen as the client had above an oxygen saturation level above 90%.

Describe how you would apply the knowledge and skills you obtained in Jackson Weber's case to an actual patient care situation.

The mistakes done in this case study has prepared me more for an acutal patient care situation. The mistakes, or missed actions done in this case study gave a thorough description of why it was a mistake or why you should have done an action. The focused assessment will be utilized when being in an actual situation with a client experiencing seizures. Seizure precautions are very important, and utilizing them in the case has helped give an understanding of the order of actions. Going into the case I had no idea whatsoever on how to go about it, I tried thinking of what assessments and actions needed to take place for patient that was experiencing seizures. After this case I have a better understanding of the assessments and thought process of why certain actions need to be done. An example would the temperature being taken after a seizure—before this case I would not have thought to take a client's temperature after the event. The little details make the greatest impacts, and after this case I have am more knowledgeable about the actions needed for a seizure client.