

Medical Case 5: Skyler Hansen

Guided Reflection Questions

1. How did the scenario make you feel?
 - a. I found the practice session to be beneficial as it provided me with an opportunity to work with a patient who was unable to respond to questions during the assessment. This scenario presented a challenge to my knowledge and abilities, and I found it enjoyable.
2. What management options would have been appropriate if Skyler Hansen had been alert and could swallow?
 - a. If the patient was able to swallow I would've provided the patient with some orange juice and crackers
3. If Skyler Hansen's acute hypoglycemic episode had not have been treated immediately, what could have happened?
 - a. It would've lead to a life threatening situation or even death
4. If too much glucose were administered to Skyler Hansen while the health care team was trying to correct his blood glucose level, what could occur?
 - a. The patient could've developed hyperglycemia
5. What key elements would you include in the handoff report for this patient? Consider the SBAR (situation, background, assessment, recommendation) format.
 - a. S: Skyler Hansen, an 18-year-old male diagnosed with type 1 diabetes 6 months ago was brought to the Emergency Department by his friends. His friends reported that he started acting weird and lied down on the cement while they were playing basketball.
 - b. B: He was lightheaded, drowsy, only woke up to stimulus, had slurred speech, was diaphoretic and acting irrationally. He had an episode of hypoglycemia because of having a long period without food and increased activity while playing basketball.
 - c. A: He was given 50 mL of 50% dextrose in water IV to increase his glucose levels. Later when he was alert and oriented, he was provided with some carbohydrates and proteins. Patient is on fingerstick glucose prn. He states he feels much better now and is still hungry. His oxygen levels are at 95% on room air, blood pressure is 118/76, pulse rate is 95bpm, respirations are 19bpm and temperature is 99F.
 - d. R: Patient is stable now. Patients vital signs should be checked frequently as well as his blood glucose levels. Watch closely from sings and symptoms of hypo-or hyperglycemia. Follow doctors order and administer 1 amp (50 mL) of 50% dextrose in water slow IV push if glucose is less than 70 mg/dL.

6. Describe age-appropriate patient teaching for Skyler Hansen and resources that may be helpful to him.
 - a. Skyler requires education that is appropriate for their age and focuses on various aspects of Type 1 Diabetes, such as the signs and symptoms of hypoglycemia, the treatment of hypoglycemia, healthy eating and exercise habits that can benefit their condition, and hands-on training on how to self-monitor their blood glucose levels. I would have provided instructions to Skyler on how to monitor their glucose levels and discussed the appropriate times for checking them.

7. Discuss confidentiality and legal empowerment of 18-year-old patients such as in Skyler Hansen's case.
 - a. Skyler is 18 years old so he is old enough to make his own decisions and sign his own forms

8. What would you do differently if you were to repeat this scenario? How would your patient care change?
 - a. I would've asked the patient if they had any allergies before administering anything to the patient