

Medical Case 5: Skyler Hansen

Guided Reflection Questions

1. How did the scenario make you feel?
 - Stressed and really scared
2. What management options would have been appropriate if Skyler Hansen had been alert and could swallow?
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 - I would have given him carbs and juice PO instead of giving him IV meds.
3. If Skyler Hansen's acute hypoglycemic episode had not been treated immediately, what could have happened?
 - As we saw in the Vsim a patient can go unconscious and their oxygen saturation levels can drop. If this would have gone untreated he could have stopped breathing, had a seizure, and unfortunately, death could occur.
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?
 - He could be hyperglycemic instead which is also just as deadly
5. What key elements would you include in the handoff report for this patient? Consider the SBAR (situation, background, assessment, recommendation) format.

S: Skyler Hansen is an 18-year-old male diagnosed with type 1 diabetes 6 months ago. He was brought to the Emergency Department by his friends. The friends report that he started acting "weird" while they were playing basketball.

- He had not eaten anything for 5 hours. Skyler told them that he felt lightheaded.
- They decided to bring him into the Emergency Department.
- Patient status - ECG: Sinus rhythm. Heart rate: 83. Pulse: Present. Blood pressure: 126/75 mm Hg. Respiration: 12. Conscious state: Appropriate. SpO₂:
- 97%. Temp: 99 F (37 C)

B: The patient was drowsy, only would wake with stimulus, had slurred speech, was diaphoretic, and was acting irrationally. While doing vital signs today he became unconscious. The doctor ordered:

- -Nasal oxygen cannula to maintain about 92 sat. levels
- -Vitals every 5min
- -50 mL of dextrose 50% in water, slow push (right-hand IV access)
- -Telemetry monitoring
- -Order a Basic Metabolic panel, sent to the lab, results are not back yet.
- -The patient was given carbs PO
- -Education on diabetes management

A: Following all of these orders the patient's vitals improved:

- Res: 12 breaths per minute. The chest is moving normally on both sides.
- Pulse: 90

- BP: 128/76
- Temp: 99
- Blood sugar: 110 mg/dL
- Alert and oriented times 4
- I called the provider to let him know of all of these new changes in the patient and stated to continue with the current order:

R: I would continue to monitor the patient and follow orders. I would recommend Carbs and protein for meals and snacks, and due to the patient's L.O.C changes and especially if the physician orders more medication via IV, I would make him stand by assist

6. Describe age-appropriate patient teaching for Skyler Hansen and resources that may be helpful to him.

- I think sports and doing multiple finger sticks

7. Discuss confidentiality and legal empowerment of 18-year-old patients such as in Skyler Hansen's case.

- He is 18 so he is legal but could allow permission to talk to his parents

8. What would you do differently if you were to repeat this scenario? How would your patient care change?

- So I had to repeat this sim plenty of times because I couldn't figure out where things were or how to work things, so I believe in a clinical setting I would know how to use the o2 cannula. However, on my last attempt, the only thing I missed was sitting the patient up to give him his food. Which I believe was just an oversight on my part because this was virtual.