Review Calculations related to medications, Basic Safety and Infection Control, Core Measures, National Patient Safety Goals, and Pain Management.

Review observations, interventions, monitoring, and care for conditions and situations commonly encountered, such as

- Acute coronary syndrome (ACS), symptoms (including shortness of breath and chest pain) and management – administer oxygen, contact the rapid response team, take VS.
- Bowel obstruction, symptoms of strangulation: continuous, localized, severe abdominal pain
- Cerebrovascular accident, symptoms including elevated BP, headache and visual changes; dysphagia post-stroke – notify RN of concern that patient might aspirate
- Diabetes, peripheral neuropathy – avoid heat to feet
- Dehydration, symptoms including confusion and sunken features
- Heart failure (HF) – dependent edema and weight gain indicate worsening
- Hydration, importance for elderly to prevent constipation and dehydration
- Hypoglycemia, symptoms including cold, clammy skin
- Incentive spirometer, correct use: inhale slowly and deeply through the mouthpiece
- Pain assessment, importance of patient’s perception
- Skin assessment, documentation: blanchable, nonblanchable erythema
- Suicide, warning signs including statements about “After I am gone…”
- Restraints, monitor circulation distal to the restraint
- Suicide risk, warning signs
- Tracheostomy, newly created, positioning in semi-Fowler’s position (head elevated at 45 degrees)

Review action, preparation, monitoring, and precautions related to medications commonly used, such as

- Benzodiazepines, risk for falling
- Diltiazem SR (Cardizem®), toxicity – hypotension and bradycardia
- Ducosate (Dulcolax®) suppository, insertion 1” (2.5 cm)
- Digoxin, Ap pulse before administering, hypokalemia creates risk for toxicity
- Heparin, calculate dosage in mL with order in units
- IM injection, angle of insertion
- Insulin, sliding scale; also hold insulin for blood glucose of 50 mg/dL; importance of patient eating immediately after receiving a rapid-acting insulin such as lispro
- Levothyroxine (Synthroid®), tablet calculation
- Lisinopril (Prinivil®), BP sitting and lying
- Lispro (Humalog®), eat immediately after receiving
- Warfarin (Coumadin®), risk of bleeding
• Medications per enteral feeding tube, follow each medication with water
• Rectal suppository, insert approximately 1 inch (2.5 cm)
• XR tablet, patient unable to swallow, report to obtain oral liquid form

Review **Laboratory Results** commonly encountered, such as

• Serum glucose
• Potassium level, decreased is risk for digoxin toxicity

Review principles and practices related to **safety and infection prevention**, including

• CAUTI-prevention bundle, reassess the continued need for the catheter
• Fall risk, elderly/benzodiazepines
• Handwashing w/ C. Diff
• MRSA prevention, hand hygiene
• Patient identifiers
• TB, respiratory protection for visitors

Review principles and practices of **communication with patients and family**, including

• Alternative to restraint – reassure the patient and remind him not to pull on tubes
• Diabetes, daily inspection of feet for redness, cuts, swelling, and blisters
• Eye drops, avoid touching tip of dropper
• Patient satisfaction: importance of clear, continuous communication
• Post-op instructions, hip arthroplasty: keep the knee on the operative side lower than the hip
• Purpose of SCD to prevent blood clots during periods of reduced mobility

Review measures to prevent **CMS Hospital Acquired Conditions**, including

• CAUTI prevention
• DVT prevention
• Glycemic control
• MRSA prevention
• Skin assessment
• Risk for falling