

Answers to Clinical Reasoning in Action Scenarios and Questions in

Ball, Bindler, Cowen and Shaw: *Principles of Pediatric Nursing: Caring for Children*, 7th Edition

Chapter 1: Nurse's Role in Care of the Child: Hospital, Community, and Home

Recall 3-year-old Manny, at the beginning of the chapter, who has a seizure disorder. He receives his care in a mobile van sent to his community by the local children's hospital. Manny has a regular source of care because his family income qualifies him for the state's Child Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

1. List at least five competencies nurses need to care for children.

Answer: The nurse is responsible for collecting patient health data, analyzing assessment data to develop nursing diagnoses, identifying expected outcome for Manny and his family, developing a plan of care that will help the Manny and his family achieve the expected outcomes, and implementing the nursing interventions listed in the care plan in a safe manner in collaboration with the family. The nurse should also maintain current knowledge in the care of children with seizures, and to evaluate the quality and effectiveness of care provided.

2. Identify at least four different settings in which a child with a seizure disorder could receive health care.

Answer: The child may receive care in a physician's office, community health center, a hospital pediatric outpatient clinic, or school health center. The child may also receive care in the hospital, usually when being treated for a different condition other than seizures.

3. List three specific injury prevention messages for a child of Manny's age that should be provided to Manny's parents to reduce his risk for morbidity and mortality.

Answer: Manny is a 3-year-old boy. The education to the parents to decrease the risk for morbidity and mortality should include, but may not be limited to, the following:
 Morbidity: unintentional injury and disease prevention, specifically injuries related to children with a seizure disorder. The child with a seizure disorder is at increased risk for drowning. The child should not be left unattended in a bathtub, wading pool, or while swimming. The caregivers need education to know how to protect the child during the seizure event. The caregivers should be aware of the need to ease the child to the floor, move away hard objects that the child could strike during the tonic and clonic movements of seizure, and provide a general safe environment during the seizure activity. Other considerations for children of all ages should include information on wearing a helmet with tricycle, bicycle, or skating; car seat safety, general safety concerns in the home

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such as baby locks for cabinets, drawers; safety equipment such as gates to prevent falls down stairs; and other home safety tools such as smoke detectors and family plans for evacuation in the event of a fire.

- 4. List specific steps the nurse should use in the healthcare setting to ensure that an error is avoided for Manny's prescribed seizure medication and administration by his parents.**

Answer: The healthcare setting should have specific guidelines for administration of pediatric medications because of the complexity in calculating dosages and the different formulations of medications (e.g., tablets, liquids, drops). The nurse must take steps to ensure that the child receives the correct medication in the right dosage at the right time, and by the right route of administration. Do not rely on memory; verify medication dosages and medication dosage calculations. Every prescription should include the child's weight and age, as well as the calculated dose and mg/kg dose. A zero should not be used after a decimal. The administration rate for all IV medication should be specified. Drug interactions and patient allergies cause adverse reactions and should be checked prior to administration of medications.