

COURSE TITLE: ADVANCED MEDICAL-SURGICAL NURSING

ASSIGNMENT TITLE: EMERGENCY NURSING 2

COURSE CODE: NSC 408

MATRIC NO: 16/MHS02/039

Question

Identify/ explain 4 more emergency nursing conditions and their management

The emergency conditions are :

1. Fracture
2. Epilepsy/Seizure
3. Burns
4. Asthma

Fracture

Definition	Signs and symptoms
It is the break in the continuity of a bone which can be as a result of direct, indirect or muscular violence	pain Tenderness Redness swelling Crepitus formation Deformity of the affected part shock

● **Management**

1. Assessment

- assess site of fracture to know the severity of the damage

- assess vital signs

2. Positioning

- the patient should be placed in supine position on a fracture bed unless this position makes the fracture unstable e.g. a patient with fracture of the rib is best positioned on a chair

3. Immobilize the fracture

- immobilize the affected part with the use of splint
- also control bleeding

4. Psychotherapy

- reassure the patient
- counsel the patient if the patient is still conscious

5. Physical care

- bed bathing
- Assisting patient to carry out activities of daily living (ADL)
- oral toileting
- treatment of pressure areas, re-positioning the patient 2 hourly

6. Diet

- adequate nutrition should be given to aid healing e.g. protein

7. Patient education

- teach patient to elevate lower extremities to heart level if swelling occur
- teach patient to exercise unaffected muscles to prevent muscle weakening
- educate patient on the importance and use of assisting devices e.g. crutches, walker

8. Administration of prescribed medications e.g.

- intravenous antibiotics to prevent infection
- analgesics to reduce pain

Epilepsy/ Seizure

Definition	Signs and symptoms
Epilepsy is a disorder of cerebral function with sudden attacks of altered consciousness,	Restlessness Irritability

motor activity or sensory phenomenon.	Jerky movements Muscle rigidity Excessive salivation
---------------------------------------	--

● Management

1. Assessment

- history taking
- assess vital signs

2. Positioning

- place patient in supine or lateral position
- remove any tight clothing around the neck, chest and waist
- clear furniture, equipment that may be harmful to patient

3. Place a firm, well padded article between the patient's teeth

- to prevent the tongue from been bitten

4. Restrain patient and guide movements as much as possible to prevent injury

5. Support and protect patient's head during convulsion

6. don't try to wake the patient, allow patient to lie quietly until consciousness returns

7. Administration of prescribed medications e.g. Anticonvulsant

8. Patient education

- educating patients and their significant others on what to do during the convulsion stage

Burns

Definition	Signs and symptoms
Burns is a form of traumatic injury caused by thermal, electrical, chemical, or radioactive agents. It can also be defined as the destruction in the continuity of tissue.	pain - presence of blisters - redness - swelling

	- hyperalgesia - shock
--	---------------------------

- Management

1. Assessment

- assessment of the skin for the surface area of skin burnt and the depth of burn
- assessment of skin turgor
- assessment of fluid and electrolyte loss
- assessment of vital signs

2. Examination of the airways

- assessment of respiratory impairment, if impaired humidified oxygen should be administered
- suctioning of the airway to remove secretions

3. Psychotherapy

- this should be done to stabilize the patient mentally and thus improving health

4. Physical care

- assisting patient to carry out activities of daily living (ADL) e.g bed bathing, oral toileting

5. Diet

- food with high calories should be given to the patient
- encourage patient to take fruits to aid wound healing
- encourage patient to take more fluid to prevent hypovolemic shock

6. Wound dressing

7. Monitor input and output chart

8. Administration of medications

- analgesics (e.g. diclofenac), antibiotics (e.g. metronidazole, cefuroxime), intravenous fluids e.g. 0.9% normal saline

Asthma

Definition	Signs and symptoms
Asthma is a hyper-responsive state of the bronchial tree which may be due to allergies	Wheezing Dyspnea Diaphoresis cough

● Management

1. Assessment

- assess the respiratory tract for signs of excessive mucus, contraction of the smooth muscles
- assess and monitor vital signs and SPO2

2. Admission

- admit patient in a well lit and ventilated area
- observation of the patient at regular interval

3. Psychotherapy

- reassure the patient and significant others

4. Positioning

- position patient in a high fowler's position to aid expansion of the lungs

5. Oxygen therapy

- administration of oxygen when the saturation of oxygen is low

6. Administration of prescribed medication

- bronchodilator, mast cell inhibitor

7. Adequate nutrition should be given to the patient

8. Patient education

- on the use of inhaler and to come to the hospital if signs and symptoms arise
- adequate fluid intake