**Location:** Orthopedic Unit

**History/Information:**
An 83-year-old widowed female has a history of severe arthritis and unrelieved pain in her right hip for six months. A total right hip replacement (total hip arthroplasty) was performed two days ago for her degenerative hip disease. The patient lives alone in a two-story house with her dog, Renny, which she adores. She has a history of hypertension, has cataracts and is hard of hearing.

**Healthcare Provider's Orders:**
- Vital Signs every four hours
- Neurovascular checks every four hours
- Apply sequential compression devices bilaterally
- Low sodium diet as tolerated
- Up with assist
- Physical therapy for hip rehabilitation
- Abduction pillow
- Check SpO₂ every shift
- Intake and output every shift
- Incentive spirometer every four hours while awake
- INR/PT daily and call healthcare provider with results
- Benazepril 10mg PO twice a day
- Enoxaparin 40mg SQ every day
- Warfarin 2mg PO every night
- Hydrocodone 5mg/Acetaminophen 500mg 1-2 tabs PO every four to six hours prn pain
- Promethazine 25mg IM every four to six hours prn nausea

**Simulated Clinical Experience (SCE™) Overview**

**Learning Objectives**
1. Performs basic physical assessment of the patient (APPLICATION).
2. Identifies and documents normal and abnormal assessment findings (APPLICATION).
4. Identifies appropriate nursing care of a patient post hip arthroplasty (APPLICATION).
Questions to Prepare for the Simulated Clinical Experience

1. What are the steps to complete a physical assessment?

2. What assessments are highest priority for a patient who has had a hip replacement two days ago?

3. Describe normal and abnormal lung sounds.
   a. What are common causes for each abnormal sound?
   b. What is the pathophysiology causing each of these abnormal sounds?

4. Describe normal and abnormal heart sounds.
   a. What are common causes for each abnormal sound?
   b. What is the pathophysiology causing each of these abnormal sounds?

5. Prioritize five assessments you believe would be most important for this patient. Why did you choose these and prioritize them in this way?

6. What is the difference between abnormal and significant findings?

7. What supportive emotional measures can the nurse provide a hospitalized patient?

8. What are the components of a functional assessment? Why is this important for this patient?

9. Do you think this patient will be able to return home and care for herself? Why or why not?

10. Describe the nursing care of a patient with a total hip arthroplasty.

References


