PREOPERATIVE NURSING MANAGEMENT

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Outlines

- Definition of Perioperative Nursing
- Preadmission Testing
- Preoperative Assessment
- Gerontological Considerations
- Special Considerations During Preoperative Period
- Medications that Potentially Affect on Surgical Experience
- Types of consent
- Preoperative Nursing Interventions
Perioperative Nursing

- **Preoperative phase**: period of time from decision for surgery until patient is transferred into operating room
- **Intraoperative phase**: period of time from when patient is transferred into operating room to admission to postanesthesia care unit (PACU)
- **Postoperative phase**: period of time from when patient is admitted to PACU to follow-up evaluation in clinical setting or at home
Question

Is the following statement true or false?
Intraoperative phase: the period of time from the decision for surgery until the patient is transferred into the operating room.
Answer

False

Rationale: The preoperative phase is the period of time from the decision for surgery until the patient is transferred into the operating room. The intraoperative phase is the period of time from when the patient is transferred to the operating room to the admission to postanesthesia care unit (PACU).
Preadmission Testing

- Initiates initial preoperative assessment
- Initiates teaching appropriate to patient’s needs
- Involves family in interview
- Verifies completion of preoperative diagnostic testing
- Verifies understanding of surgeon-specific preoperative orders
- Discusses, reviews advanced-directive document
- Begins discharge planning by assessing patient’s need for postoperative transportation, care
Preoperative Assessment

- Nutritional, fluid status
- Dentition
- Drug or alcohol use
- Respiratory status
- Cardiovascular status
- Hepatic, renal function
Preoperative Assessment (cont’d)

- Endocrine function
- Immune function
- Previous medication use
- Psychosocial factors
- Spiritual, cultural beliefs
Gerontological Considerations

- Cardiac and circulatory compromise
- Respiratory compromise
- Renal function
- Confusion
- Fluid and electrolyte imbalances
- Skin
- Comorbidities
- Altered sensory
- Mobility restrictions
Special Considerations During Preoperative Period

- Patients who are obese
- Patients with disabilities
- Patients undergoing ambulatory surgery
- Patients undergoing emergency surgery
Medications that Potentially Affect on Surgical Experience

- Corticosteroids
- Diuretics
- Phenothiazines
- Tranquilizers
- Insulin
- Antibiotics
- Anticoagulants
- Antiseizure medications
- Thyroid hormone
- Opioids
- OTC and herbals
Question

Which medication classification must be assessed during the preoperative period because it can cause an electrolyte imbalance during surgery?

A. Corticosteroids
B. Diuretics
C. Phenothiazines
D. Insulin
Answer

B. Diuretics

Rationale: Diuretics during anesthesia may cause excessive respiratory depression resulting from an associated electrolyte imbalance. Corticosteroids can cause cardiovascular collapse if discontinued suddenly. Phenothiazines may increase the hypotensive action of anesthetics. Interaction between anesthetics and insulin must be considered when a patient with diabetes mellitus undergoes surgery.
Informed Consent

• Should be in writing

• Should contain the following:
  • Explanation of procedure, risks
  • Description of benefits, alternatives
  • Offer to answer questions about procedure
  • Instructions that patient may withdraw consent
  • Statement informing patient if protocol differs from customary procedure
Voluntary Consent

• Valid consent must be freely given, without coercion
• Patient must be at least 18 years of age (unless emancipated minor)
• Consent must be obtained by physician
• Patient’s signature must be witnessed by professional staff member
Incompetent Patient

- Individual who is not autonomous
- Cannot give or withhold consent
  - Cognitively impaired
  - Mentally ill
  - Neurologically incapacitated
Patient Education

- Deep breathing, coughing, incentive spirometry
- Mobility, active body movement
- Pain management
- Cognitive coping strategies
- Instruction for patients undergoing ambulatory surgery
General Preoperative Nursing Interventions

• Providing psychosocial interventions
  • Reducing anxiety, decreasing fear
  • Respecting cultural, spiritual, religious beliefs
• Maintaining patient safety
• Managing nutrition, fluids
• Preparing bowel
• Preparing skin
Immediate Preoperative Nursing Interventions

- Administering preanesthetic medication
- Maintaining preoperative record
- Transporting patient to presurgical area
- Attending to family needs
Question

Is the following statement true or false?
The primary goal in withholding food before surgery is to prevent aspiration.
Answer

True

Rationale: The primary goal in withholding food before surgery is to prevent aspiration.
Question

The nurse is preparing to administer a premedication. Which of the following actions should the nurse take first?

A. Have the family present
B. Ensure that the preoperative shave is completed
C. Have the patient void
D. Make sure the patient is covered with a warm blanket
Answer

C. Have the patient void

Rationale: Having the patient void prior to administering a premedication is necessary for patient safety to prevent falls and injury. Shaving is no longer recommended; clipping the hair is evidence-based practice. The family can be present, and a warm blanket can be provided any time the patient appears cold or asks for it, but the patient fall risk is greatly increased after receiving preoperative medications that are sedative or amnesic.
Preoperative Instructions to Prevent Postoperative Complications

- Diaphragmatic breathing
- Coughing
- Leg exercises
- Turning to side
- Getting out of bed
The nurse is teaching a patient deep-breathing exercises to prevent respiratory complications postoperatively. Which of the following should be included in the education plan? Select all that apply.

A. Splint or support the incision to promote maximal comfort
B. Inhale slowly through the nostrils, exhale through pursed lips
C. Hold breath for about 5 seconds to expand the alveoli
D. Repeat this exercise 5 to 10 times hourly
E. Close one nostril while inhaling
A. Splint or support the incision to promote maximal comfort
B. Inhale slowly through the nostrils, exhale through pursed lips
C. Hold breath for about 5 seconds to expand the alveoli
D. Repeat this exercise 5 to 10 times hourly

Rationale: Closing one nostril while inhaling would not be effective in deep breathing exercises.
Thank you