

## CONGENITAL HEART DISEASE

### Page 1

#### 1. Clinical Manifestations

Billy is admitted to the pediatric unit for treatment of the CHF and is to be seen by a pediatric cardiologist for further cardiac assessment. The nurse interviews Teresa and Aaron and completes Billy's admission assessment.

2. 1.ID: 6975229789

Which clinical manifestations would the nurse expect to assess in an infant diagnosed with ventricular septal defect (VSD)?

A.  Normal S1 and S2 heart sounds with no audible murmur or palpable thrill.

These would not be expected.

B.  Tachypnea and grunting with intercostal and subcostal retractions. **Correct**

These manifestations are due to the increased workload of the heart and fluid buildup in the lungs.

C.  Extreme pallor and porcelain-like skin.

These are associated with iron-deficiency anemia, not VSD.

D.  Excessive bruising, lymphadenopathy, and poor skin turgor.

These findings may be associated with leukemia.

Correct

Awarded 1.0 points out of 1.0 possible points.

3. The nurse continues Billy's admission assessment and obtains subjective data from Billy's parents concerning his normal routine for feeding, bathing, and playing.

4. 2.ID: 6975229793

Which statement by Teresa supports Billy's diagnosis of CHF?

A.  "Billy never seems to get full even when I breastfeed him for a long time." **Correct**

One of the earliest signs of CHF in an infant is difficulty eating. Feedings take longer, and less is consumed while more energy is expended. The infant may appear hungry and irritable soon after a feeding. **TABLE +**

**TABLE +**

B.  "He is always in a great mood, but he just will not go to sleep for more than 2 hours."

An infant with CHF fatigues more easily, sleeps a lot of the time, and is usually irritable and lethargic.

C.  "Billy has a bluish tinged color around his lips, and his little fingers are blue and cold."

CHF and VSD are acyanotic heart conditions. Therefore, the infant will not exhibit any cyanosis.

- D.  "My son has many nosebleeds, and his gums bleed after I feed him."

An infant with CHF will not typically have any bleeding tendencies.

Correct

Awarded 1.0 points out of 1.0 possible points.

## Page 2

### 1. Diagnostic Tests

The pediatric cardiologist schedules a cardiac catheterization for the next day. The pediatric nurse discusses the procedure with the parents.

2. 3.ID: 6975230633

What should the nurse include when teaching Billy's parents about post-procedure care?

- A.  Advise the parents that vital signs will be taken every 4 hours after Billy returns to the room.

After cardiac catheterization, vital signs are obtained every 15 minutes for the first hour and then every hour.

- B.  Instruct the parents on the technique they should use to assess Billy's incision site.

Assessment of the incision is a nursing responsibility. It should not be delegated to the parents.

- C.  Explain that they will need to hold Billy in the prone position after the procedure. **Correct**

Billy's leg that will be used as the femoral artery insertion site must be kept straight. The infant is placed prone in the lap to help keep the leg straight and to prevent hematoma formation and subsequent hemorrhage.  

- D.  Discuss the reason for placing Billy in a car seat for 6 hours post-procedure.

He would not be allowed to sit up in a car seat.

Correct

Awarded 1.0 points out of 1.0 possible points.

3. As the nurse is obtaining informed consent for Billy's cardiac catheterization, Aaron says, "I am still not exactly sure why the doctor has to do the test."

4. 4.ID: 6975230636

Which action should the nurse implement?

A.  Explain why Billy is having the procedure and get the permit signed.

It is not the role of the nurse to explain an invasive procedure.

B.  Notify the cardiologist and do not allow Aaron to sign the permit. **Correct**

It is the responsibility of the healthcare provider to explain any proposed procedure. The nurse should ensure that the client has an understanding of the procedure, the risks, and the advantages before witnessing the client (in this case, the minor's parent) sign the permit. **TABLE +**

C.  Allow Aaron to sign the permit without taking any further action.

Aaron does not understand why the procedure is needed. The nurse cannot allow him to sign the permit under those circumstances because doing so would violate informed consent.

D.  Request that Teresa sign the permit for the cardiac catheterization.

Although only one parental signature is required on an informed consent, if the other parent does not understand the procedure, the nurse should take a proactive role to ensure both parents fully comprehend.

Correct

Awarded 1.0 points out of 1.0 possible points.

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1. Nursing Diagnoses and Interventions

When preparing Billy's nursing care plan, the nurse identifies the priority nursing diagnosis as "Decreased cardiac output."

2. 5.ID: 6975230683

Which nursing intervention must be included in Billy's plan of care related to this diagnosis?

A.  Cluster nursing care activities to minimize fatigue.

This would be an appropriate nursing intervention for the nursing diagnosis of "Activity intolerance."

B.  Prevent exposure to individuals with respiratory illnesses.

This would be an appropriate nursing intervention for the nursing diagnoses of "Ineffective breathing pattern" or "Risk for infection."

C.  Monitor serum electrolyte levels, especially potassium.

This would be an appropriate nursing intervention for the nursing diagnosis of "Fluid volume excess," especially when administering diuretics.