

Introduction

Narrator: Hello! In this activity, we will observe a postconference, and discuss various strategies that can be applied when conducting your own postconference.

Postconference is a focused-learning experience for students that provides opportunity to assess understanding. Use Master Instruction strategies to encourage an exchange of ideas, rather than having students give a serial report. Postconference can be a discovery process to deepen knowledge and make learning fun.

Postconference Part 1

Preceptor: What a great day! Let's begin by debriefing for the next 10 minutes, and talk about passing meds. Marco, how did the experience feel?

Marco: It felt way better than I thought it would. I was kind of nervous, but I was prepared. Once I got started, it went just like I practiced in SIMCARE. I was really surprised. Things just synched for me. We read about meds and practiced in SIMCARE, but when I was actually with the patient and giving him his meds, the whole picture came together-his diagnosis, medical condition, treatment plan, and meds-they all just fit together.

Preceptor: Good! Marco, do you have any questions about the medications your patient is receiving?

Marco: I don't really understand why my patient's getting NSAIDs. I know he has arm pain but wouldn't something stronger be more effective, like opiates? I mean, if he's hospitalized, why not give him something stronger?

Preceptor: Thank you for raising this question. Let's talk more about your patient's treatment plan and the rationale for administering NSAIDs. Why do you believe opiates would be a better medication choice for your patient?

Well-Developed Questions

Narrator: Using well developed questions encourage students to think critically about patient care and apply classroom content. For example, you could ask, "What could be done to maximize the effectiveness of NSAIDS? Or, what could be combined with this medication to improve its effectiveness?" These questions will not only facilitate learning by analyzing a



particular patient's situation and potential risks, but they also provide an opportunity to assess student understanding. Let's rejoin the postconference.

Postconference Part 2

Preceptor: Next, let's look at a clinical scenario to determine approaches to care, possible decisions, and, importantly, consequences of those decisions. Read the case study, and think about problems you might anticipate for this patient, additional data or information you want to collect, and three priority nursing interventions. Please be sure to include your rationale.

Marco: What an interesting and complex scenario.

Preceptor: Yes, it is a complex case. Please identify one problem that you anticipate for this patient, along with your rationale for why you think there is potential risk.

Wrap-Up

Narrator: Besides providing an opportunity for integrative learning, postconference is a perfect opportunity to encourage collegial relationships, develop nursing attitudes and values, and provide an opportunity for self-reflection.