

4. Intradermal Injection (Penicillin Allergy Testing)

【Case】

Bed 4, Robert Walker, male, 20 y/o, college student.

Fever and cough for two days, was admitted due to “Acute Pneumonia” .

CC: Still coughing with phlegm. PE: Body temperature 39.7℃, no dyspnea, the left lower chest showed dullness on percussion with moist rales at the end of inspiration on auscultation.

Doctor’ s order: 0.9%NS 2ml+Penicillin G 800,000 units IM bid Ast()

A nurse will administer “Penicillin Allergy Testing” for the patient first.

【Dialogs for Nursing Action】

Nurse: Good afternoon! Would you tell me your full name?

Patient: Good afternoon! My name is Robert Walker.

Nurse: I’ m Ms. Chen, your Nurse. Are you still coughing?

Patient: Yes, it is worse than yesterday.

Nurse: Do you cough up any phlegm today?

Patient: Yes, it’ s yellow.

Nurse: And your body temperature is 39.7℃. Do you know your diagnosis?

Patient: Doctor told me that I’ ve got acute pneumonia, is it serious?

Nurse: Don’ t worry. You need to stay in hospital and be treated with penicillin. You will feel much better after several days. Have you ever used penicillin before?

Patient: No.

Nurse: Are you allergic to any food such as sea food?

Patient: I’ m allergic to shrimps and crabs.

Nurse: What happened after you ate shrimps or crabs?

Patient: I had itchy rashes.

Nurse: Are you allergic to any medications?

Patient: No.

Nurse: Do you feel dizzy or hungry now?

Patient: No.

Nurse: Doctor prescribed you penicillin for intramuscular injection. Some people are allergic to it. The incidence of allergic reaction is very low. However, the reaction can be very serious. I have to do a skin test before giving you the penicillin injection to make sure you are not allergic to it. Don' t worry.

Patient: Sure.

Nurse: Do you need to go to the bathroom now?

Patient: No.

Nurse: Please wait a moment. I' ll prepare the skin test for you.

Patient: Ok.

(A few minutes later)

Nurse: Please tell me your full name once again.

Patient: Robert Walker.

Nurse: Robert. Please show me your forearm. Now I am going to clean your skin.

Patient: Ok.

Nurse: I' m going to insert the needle. You will feel a little prick. Please don' t move your arm. Ok, it' s all done.

Patient: Thank you! Ms. Chen.

Nurse: You are welcome. Please do not scratch or press on the test site and do not leave the room. Please press the call signal if you don' t feel well. I' ll return to check the skin test result in 20 minutes.

(20mins later)

Nurse: Robert, are you ok?

Patient: I am fine.

Nurse: No rashes, itching, nausea, and no wheezing and other discomforts? Good, it is negative. I am going to give you penicillin for intramuscular injection in a few minutes.

Patient: Thank you!

5. Intramuscular Injection

【Case】

Bed 4, Robert Walker, male, 20 y/o, college student.

Medical History and Chief Complaint: see “Dialog 4” .

Doctor's order: 0.9%NS 2ml+Penicillin G 800,000 units IM bid
Ast(-)

Penicillin Allergy Testing was done and the result was negative. The nurse is preparing to give the patient PG intramuscular injection.

【Dialogs for Nursing Action】

(Continued with “Dialog 4”)

Nurse: Hello, Robert. I am going to give you the penicillin injection intramuscularly. Please tell me your full name again.

Patient: Robert Walker.

Nurse: Yes. Are you feeling ok now?

Patient: I am fine.

Nurse: To ensure your privacy, let me close the curtain. Which side of your hips do you prefer me to give you the injection?

Patient: The right side.

Nurse: Ok, please lie on your left side and pull down your pants a little bit. You are doing very well. I am going to clean the skin and you will feel a little cold.

Patient: All right.

Nurse: It will hurt a little bit, you can take deep breaths in and out to help you relax and it should be done shortly. Please stay still. (Insert the needle) Ok. (Inject the solution) Are you doing ok?

Patient: It really hurts.

Nurse: I am going to inject slower. Do you feel better now?

Patient: I'm feeling better now. Sorry, I'm always afraid of shots.

Nurse: It doesn't mater. You are still having high fever and coughing up yellow sputum, you need to drink a lot of water and rest more.

Patient: Sure, thank you!

Nurse: Do you smoke?

Patient: Never. I know that smoking can damage the lungs.

Nurse: You are right. Ok, the injection is finished. Please put on your pants and remember not to leave your room in the next 30 minutes and let us know if you have any discomforts.

Patient: I see. Thank you!

Nurse: Is there anything else I can do for you now?

Patient: Nothing else, thank you! 1

6. Subcutaneous Injection

【Case】

Bed 5, Helen Nima, female, 55 y/o, business woman.

Increasing thirst, polydipsia, polyuria and fatigue for about two months, was admitted due to “Type 2 Diabetes”.

Doctor's order: Novolin-R 8 units H tid 30mins before a meal

【Dialogs for Nursing Action】

Nurse: Hello, I'm your nurse, Ms. Chen. Would you tell me your full name?

Patient: Hello, Ms. Chen. I'm Helen Nima.

Nurse: Do you know your diagnosis?

Patient: Recently I've been feeling very thirsty and passing a lot of urine. I've lost weight despite my good appetite, and I feel tired all the time. My doctor told me that I had suffered Diabetes.

Nurse: Yes. Diabetes is a chronic disease. At the present time, it can't be cured, however, it can be controlled. Besides sticking to a special diet and having some regular exercise, insulin injection is one of the important treatment options. Your doctor ordered Novolin-R injection for you. It is one kind of insulin.

Patient: Thank you!

Nurse: Since insulin can cause hypoglycemia, you need to prepare your meal before injection. Is your lunch ready now?

Patient: Yes, it is ready.

Nurse: Good. Do you feel dizzy now?

Patient: No.

Nurse: Now, please roll up your sleeve and show up your upper arm. I am going to clean your skin and you will feel a little cold.

Patient: That will be fine.

Nurse: I'm going to insert the needle. You will feel a little prick. Please don't move your arm. Ok, it's all done.

Patient: Thank you! Ms. Chen.

Nurse: You are welcome. Don't forget to have your lunch 30mins later. If you are not feeling well such as feeling dizzy or sweating, please inform us immediately.

Patient: I know.

Nurse: Is there anything I can do for you now?

Patient: Nothing else, thanks!

Nurse: Have a good rest, hope you recover soon!