



# A.H.

Case Study  
By Kathleen Law  
Saint Elizabeth University  
Master of Science &  
Dietetic Internship  
Overlook Medical Center



# Who is AH?

76 years old

Male

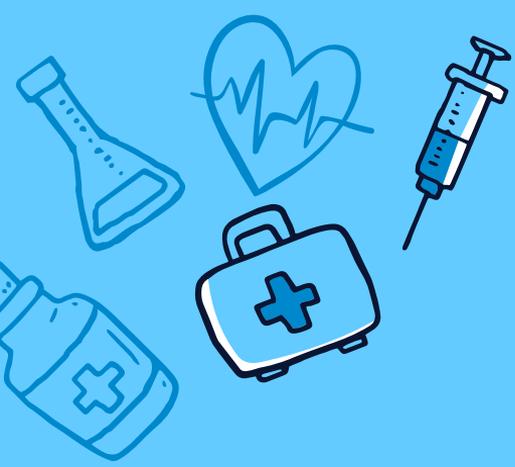
68 inches tall (5'8")

179 pounds

BMI: 27.32 kg/m<sup>2</sup>

Ideal weight: 154 pounds





# Chief Complaint

Patient presents to ED with  
nausea/vomiting and heartburn on  
10/28/2023



# Medical & Surgical History



- Iron deficiency anemia, due to chronic blood loss
- Hypertension (HTN)
- Hyperlipidemia (HLD)
- Chronic kidney disease (CKD)
- Type II diabetes (T2DM)
- Antiphospholipid Syndrome (Hughes Syndrome) – increases risk of blood clots
- Diagnostic EGD (Esophagogastroduodenoscopy) – 10/28/2023
- Kidney biopsy – 5/2023
- Diagnostic EGD – 4/2023
- Colonoscopy – 4/5/2023
- Vascular stent – 4/2022



# AH's Admission Problems

01

## **Cardiac Arrest**

Occuring while admitted,  
moved to CCU

02

## **AKI on CKD**

Acute injury on a chronic  
condition of the kidneys

03

## **GI Hemorrhage**

Bleed, in this case  
causing acute blood loss  
anemia

04

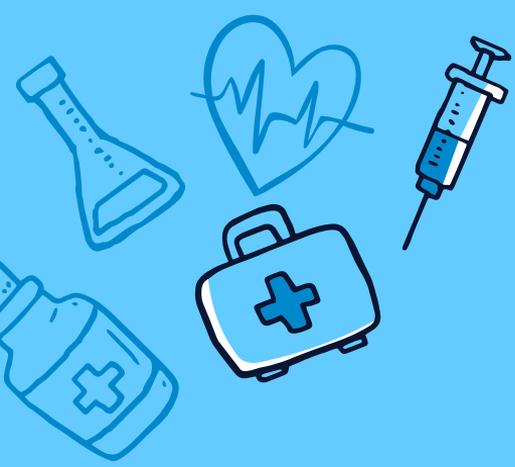
## **Pneumonia**

Due to aspiration

05

## **Malnutrition**

Severe protein-calorie  
malnutrition

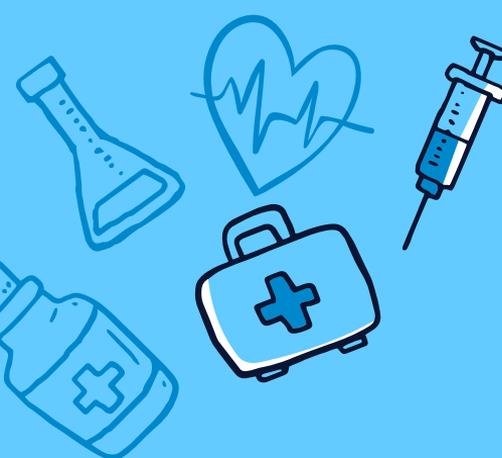


01

# Cardiac Arrest

- A sudden, unexpected stop of heart function
- Patient moved to CCU, until stable enough to moved to the non-intensive cardiac unit

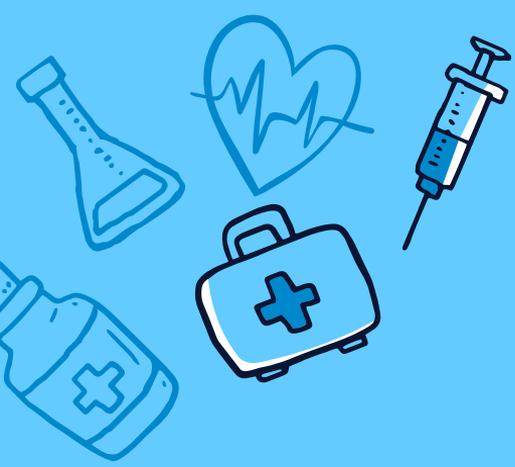




02

# AKI on CKD

- Chronic kidney disease (CKD): ongoing functional or structural issues with the kidneys
  - Acute kidney injury (AKI): an abrupt worsening of kidney function
  - MNT goals: enhance nutritional status & reduce the risk of comorbidities; should be tailored to the individual person, based on their labs (ex. BUN, creatinine, electrolytes)
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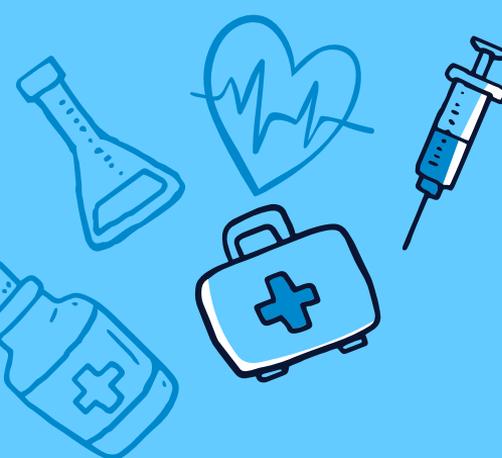


03

## GI Hemorrhage

- A bleed in the GI tract caused by a ruptured vessel
- In this patient, causing acute blood loss-related anemia



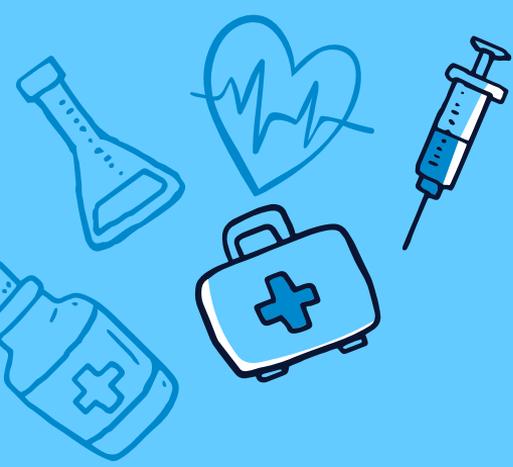


04

# Aspiration Pneumonia

- Pneumonia, an infection in the lungs, caused by breathing liquid or food into the lungs
- Pneumonia patients at greater risk of malnutrition & weight loss
- MNT goals: prevent weight loss, maintain lean body mass, provide EN if PO intake is not enough
  - SLP evaluation – necessity for modified diet (IDDSI)



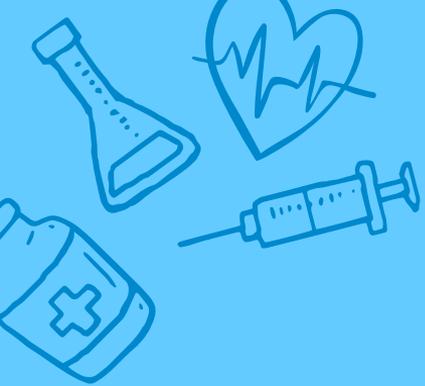


05

# Protein-Calorie Malnutrition

- Poor nutritional status: decreased intake, weight loss, fat/muscle wasting, and/or nutrition-related edema
- MNT goals: provide a minimum of 25 kcal/kg + 1.25 grams protein/kg
  - Increase needs on individual basis





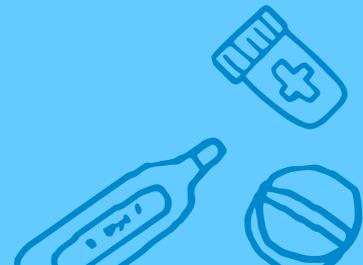
# Nutrition Need to Know

## Nutrition Visits

Initial RD visit 10/30/2023  
1<sup>st</sup> follow up 11/3/2023  
2<sup>nd</sup> follow up 11/13/2023

## Triggers

Nausea/vomiting 3+  
days PTA and non-  
healing wounds



## AH's 3<sup>rd</sup> Nutrition Visit – Notes

Patient in good spirits, laughing and smiling with family upon entering room and during third assessment.

Patient reports:

- Good appetite today (first day): patient ate > 75% of breakfast (cream of wheat, peaches, pudding, coffee), and is still hungry
- No nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, constipation this day, had one episode of nausea the day before upon waking, passed once patient sat up, not heartburn
  - Tolerating pureed food well, no trouble swallowing currently and no trouble chewing PTA, would like to advance from pureed diet
  - Not consuming nutrition supplements (Ensure), requests order be canceled
    - Interested in trying *Magic Cup* and high-protein Jello

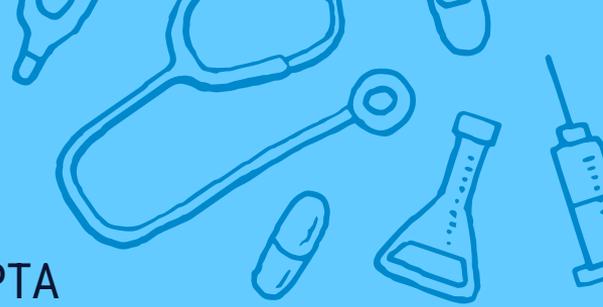
# Nutrition Risk

- Patient consuming less than 50% of nutrient needs for greater than 5 days, prior to initial assessment
- Patient diagnosed with acute severe malnutrition at initial assessment, based on decreased intake and edema (+3)
- Patient consuming 50% or less of needs during admission until day of 3<sup>rd</sup> assessment (2<sup>nd</sup> follow up), when intake began to improve
- Patient with multiple pressure injuries/wounds
- NFPE findings
- Patient's medical history



# Assessment

- Consuming 25-50% of nutrition needs for 3 days PTA
- No special diet PTA, no allergies, intolerances, food-related religious preferences, no oral nutrition supplements PTA
- Patient 68", currently 179 pounds, usually 170 pounds, BMI 27.32, patient experiencing weight fluctuations during admission, likely due to fluid accumulation (edema)
- See lab data on slide 15 (next slide)
- See NFPE finding on slide 16
- Past medical history: iron deficiency, HTN, HLD, CKD, T2DM, Hughes Syndrome
- Patient lives with spouse and has support from daughter who lives close by (both present during 3<sup>rd</sup> nutrition visit)



# Lab Data

Lab + range	10/30/2023	11/3/2023	11/13/2023
Glucose (< 100)	191	232	171
BUN (8-23)	154	172	75
Creatinine (0.5-1.2)	4.29	4.55	2.84
Sodium (136-145)	139	142	139
Potassium (3.5-5.1)	3.7	3.6	4.2
Calcium (9.0-10.5)	7.3	7.9	7.7
Phosphorus (2.5-4.5)	5.8	5.7	1.9
Magnesium (1.7-2.4)	2.8	2.7	2.1
HA1c (< 6.5)	8.4	8.4	8.4



# NFPE

## Subcutaneous Fat Loss

- Orbital – mild
- Buccal – moderate
- Triceps - severe

## Muscle Loss

- Temple – moderate
- Clavicle – severe
- Shoulder – moderate
- Calf - moderate

Some swelling around the ankles (possibly +1 edema), was +3 at initial visit

# Medications during admission



- Amlodipine (Calcium channel blocker - BP)
- Bumetanide (diuretic)
- Carvedilol (BP)
- Epoetin (anemia, CKD)
- Fluticasone (steroid)
- Folic Acid
- Insulin
- Prednisone (steroid)
- PPI

# Main Nutrition Diagnosis



**P**

Malnutrition, acute  
disease related,  
undernutrition  
(severe)

*Related to...*



**E**

Impaired GI function,  
inadequate caloric  
intake, and swallowing  
difficulty/dysphagia

*As evidenced by...*



**S**

Visual loss of  
muscle mass and  
subcutaneous fat  
loss; energy intake  
of less than 50%  
estimated energy  
needs for 5+ days

# Supporting Nutrition Diagnosis



**P**

Increased nutrient  
needs (kcal,  
protein)

*Related to...*



**E**

Repletion (wound  
healing, +PCM)

*As evidenced by...*

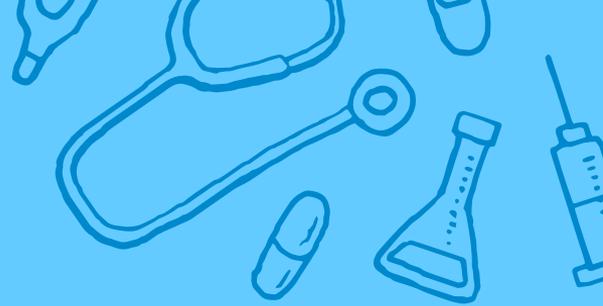


**S**

Protein-calorie  
malnutrition, visual  
loss of  
subcutaneous fat  
and muscle

# Intervention

- Continue on level 4 IDDSI diet, per MD (SLP to follow)
- Discontinue Ensure
- Send Magic Cup 1x daily
- Send High Protein Jello 1x daily
- PES #1: Meet > 75% of estimated nutrition needs from meals + Magic Cup & Jello
- PES #2: Increased needs, based on ideal body weight:
  - Energy: 28-32 kcal/kg = 1960-2240 kcal
  - Protein: 1.2-1.5 g protein/kg = 84-105 grams
  - Fluid: 1ml/kcal



# Monitor & Evaluate

- #1: Indicator: PO Intake; Criteria: consume > 75% of estimated needs
- #2: Indicator: Estimated needs; Criteria: calculated needs @ 28-32 kcal/kg and 1.2-1.5g protein/kg
- Monitor labs (glucose, BUN, creatinine)
- Monitor weights
- Monitor skin
- Patient will be monitored for changes in diet daily and more closely every 3-5 days for follow up



# References

1. Nutrition Care Manual. Accessed December 12, 2023.  
<https://www.nutritioncaremanual.org/>.
2. *Nutrition Care Process Terminology Reference Manual*. Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics; 2017.
3. Width M and Reinhard T. *The Essential Pocket Guide for Clinical Nutrition*. Jones & Bartlett Learning; 2021
4. Mordarski B. *Nutrition Focused Physical Exam*. Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics; 2022.