

CODE: N8

Question: Neuro

Type:

Author:

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**Opening Scenario:**

21 year old male, 95 kg. drunk driver, seat belted, rolled his car and now in your emergency room. He has C5/6 dislocation and compound fracture left humerus. Booked for the O.R. for neck stabilization and open reduction of the arm fracture.

**Major points of additional information to be provided to the candidate, e.g., hx, px, labs, x-ray, consults:**

BP 90/60 mmHg and heart rate 58. Quadriplegic, neck in collar.  $FI_{O_2}$  0.4 mask - ABG;s - 7.28,  $Pa_{O_2}$  121,  $PaCO_2$  40,  $HCO_3$  18, Hgb electrolytes normal. Has been given prednisolone.

**Major decision points (major decision points or options which must be recognized by the candidate)**

- Rule out other injury
- Possibility of aspiration
- Treatment of spinal shock
- Securing airway (awake vs rapid sequence)

**Any followup information required to lead to the end of the question**

- Heart rate decreased to 20 with intubation if atropine not given prior to rapid sequence.
- Decrease BP intra-operative - > Rx; associated with increased airway pressure and gastric distension

**Critical features to be included i.e. the *must* have to pass the question or to be considered *completely* unacceptable**

- Appropriate treatment spinal shock and plan for securing airway
- Management of bradycardia
- Management and differential of hypotension intra-operatively in this setting

Ref:RCEXAMS2.NOV.94

USED:

Last revision: 95/10