



Leading Interprofessional
Collaboration
HEALTH SCIENCES

Role Play

Bob is a 32 year old male who was badly beaten in a fist fight last night (no loss of consciousness). He suffered a concussion, broken right wrist, three broken ribs and his left leg was broken in two places. He complains of blurred vision in his left eye and intense, painful headaches. An MRI was completed and the team is awaiting results.

When asked about his fight, Bob said that he couldn't remember much as he had been drinking; he had also participated in rehabilitation for alcoholism a couple of months ago. When asked if there was anything he needed, Bob laughed and said, "All I need is a couple of drinks – that would fix this headache!"

He also said that he would really like to go home as soon as possible and that he needs to resume his job in his friend's landscaping company. "I live alone and am not used to so many people in and out of my room – I can't get any peace and quiet here."

Bob did not attend the meeting about planning for his discharge. He said, "You know what I want – let me out of here."

You are meeting to determine the discharge plans for Bob.

Role Play Instructions

- ***Role play to last approx. 10 minutes – observer act as timekeeper***
- ***As a facilitator, you can ask for a "time-out" at any time...***
- ***Debriefing & Discussion led by observer***

Professional Roles – Team Member Perspectives

(Role play participants can use one of the perspectives below to contribute to the group discussion or create your own role and case information)

Nurse – You are concerned about Bob's continuing headaches. Although his pain meds are helping somewhat, the relief is not good enough for him. You also have concerns about his alcoholism – his friend visited and Bob apparently asked him to smuggle in beer for him after you had already told him about the hospital's alcohol policy. Overall though, you think Bob would be better off at home – it is what he wants after all.

Occupational Therapist – You are concerned that Bob may be unsafe at home – you would like the opportunity to assess him prior to discharging him. You would also like to know more about what the MRI indicates prior to him leaving.

Doctor – You are concerned about Bob going home. He is at high risk of drinking and needs to be involved in a program. Also, you would like to know more about his MRI results prior to discharging him home.

Physiotherapist – You feel that Bob is able to return home anytime. He did well on his crutches this morning and seems to be managing well over all. He can receive the MRI results via his family doctor and really doesn't seem to need to be in hospital. You are also aware of the pressure to free up beds due to a backlog of people waiting.

Social Worker – You think that it is doubtful that he will get connected with a GP (he doesn't have one currently) and are worried that he may relapse further (in relation to his alcoholism). You would like to see him stay a little longer in order to create a more comprehensive discharge plan as soon as possible.

Adapted from Centre for Interprofessional Education. (2010) Role Play. University of Toronto.