Case Study  
John Jacobs  
Neruo/CVA

At 0645 John Jacobs, a 65 year old white male is admitted to university hospital. He was seen in the Emergency Department with the following symptoms: right side hemaparesis, homonymous hemianopia, and expressive aphasia. He is drowsy, his weight is 230 lbs. And he is 5 ft. 11 in. tall with BP200/120. He has a history of cocaine abuse as a young adult. He is scheduled for a CT scan and cerebral angiogram prior to admission to the floor to rule out cerebral vascular accident (CVA). His wife accompanies him and states, “I found him unconscious on the floor in the bathroom.”

Questions
1. What are the risk factors in this case? Describe how they might contribute to the development of a cerebral vascular accident (CVA). What additional history would you like to obtain in this client?
2. Describe what hemaparesis, homonymous hemianopia, and expressive aphasia will mean in relationship to nursing care.
3. How should the nurse prepare Johan and his wife now for the CT scan and later for the angiogram?

John has had all of his tests completed. He has a blockage of the middle cerebral artery. He is started on Mannitol, heparin, dilantin and decadron.

Questions
4. What are the nursing diagnoses for John?
5. What are the rationales for each of John’s new medications?

Day of discharge. Medications for discharge include; dilantin 300 mg qd, Vasotec 10 mg qd, Ticlid 250 mg bid po, and Tylenol gr. X q4h prn for headache. Continue PT/OT 3x/week. His wife seems overwhelmed with the thought of taking John home. She is especially concerned about his dysphagia.

Questions
6. How would the nurse explain the function and side effects of his medications to John and his wife at discharge?
7. What is dysphagia? Explain interventions the wife could use to help with his eating.
8. As a coordinator of care, how might the nurse plan for John’s discharge?
9. Describe how you would feel if the person having the stroke were related to you.