**Discussion Topics, Chapter 43, Caring for Surgical Patients**

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| Topics for Discussion | Learning Objective(s) |
| 1. Marlene Miller is 1day post-abdominal surgery. Their care plan states they are to do coughing and deep breathing exercises every 1 to 2 hours while awake. They have TED stockings on at all times. They are to be dangled this morning and assisted up into a chair in the afternoon. While helping them with personal hygiene this morning, you instruct them again in coughing and deep breathing and encourage them to do this. They attempt to, but stop, saying, “It hurts too much.” You notice that they are reluctant to move about in bed and lie quietly on their back most of the time. When you approach them to assist them to dangle, they refuse to sit up, and say, “I just can’t move. It hurts me to move.”   1. What are the reasons for doing coughing and deep breathing exercises, dangling, and sitting up after surgery? 2. How can you help Marlene comply with these activities? | 5,6 |
| 2. Jonathon Olderman is 59 years old. They are admitted preoperatively to prepare for surgery tomorrow. They have been having abdominal pain off and on for the past 6 months, and they will be undergoing abdominal exploratory surgery. They live with their wife at home, who suffers from complications of diabetes mellitus. They have no children, and Jonathon is their wife’s primary caregiver. Jonathon has a full-time job as an accountant for a local law firm.   1. What are some fears or anxieties Mr. Olderman might be experiencing? 2. How can you help to reduce these fears and anxieties? | 3 |
| 3. Mrs. Jones is scheduled for surgery today. You are assigned their presurgical care.   1. What are your responsibilities regarding physically preparing them for surgery? | 4 |