**Discussion Topics, Chapter27, Caring for People Who Are Dying**

| Topics for Discussion | Learning Objective(s) |
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| 1. You are a hospice home health nursing assistant caring for Georgia, who is dying from breast cancer that has metastasized to the bones in their spine. They are kept free of pain with large doses of morphine given rectally by their husband. Georgia seems happy to see you today and tells you they are not as comfortable as they have been because they have not been able to have a bowel movement even though they feel they need to. You are to bathe Georgia, help them dress, and change their bed linens.   1. While caring for Georgia, what signs of impending death will you be observing for? 2. What comfort measures would you provide for Georgia? | 1, 3 |
| 2. Georgia, your home hospice patient, shows many signs of impending death. Their husband, Samuel, is very concerned because they have stopped eating and sleep all the time. They are afraid Georgia will die before they have a chance to speak with Georgia once more. While you are bathing Georgia, they open their eyes, look at you, and say, “I’m going to die today. Will you say a prayer with me?” You know they are a Catholic, and you are a Lutheran.   1. How will you respond to Samuel’s fears and concerns? 2. How will you respond to Georgia’s request? | 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 |
| 3. After Mr. Abbot’s death, you are assigned his postmortem care.   1. What is included in postmortem care? | 7 |