Unit 8 Assignment: Outcomes Measurement Case Study

Unit outcome(s) addressed in this Assignment:

- Explain common ways that healthcare organizations manage the prevention and occurrence of infections

Course outcome(s) addressed in this Assignment:

HI305-5: Evaluate the role of informatics in quality management and performance improvement.

Instructions

According to an article published in the News-Tribune, a 39-year-old woman who was being treated for breast cancer died as a result of receiving the wrong dosage of cyclophosphamide (a cancer-fighting agent) and an overdose of another drug meant to keep her from suffering side effects. This happened at a reputable facility that specializes in the treatment of cancer.

At least a dozen doctors, nurses, and pharmacists missed the medication error for four days. Her husband reported that she suffered tremendously as the lining of her intestine was shed, resulting in her literally vomiting sheets of tissue. The doctors had reassured the patient and her husband that all was normal. Her heart failed after receiving four times the recommended amount of medication.

An autopsy revealed no visible signs of cancer in her body, which indicated that the treatment had worked. Another woman died of a similar mistake two days earlier. Human error was felt the only possible explanation, according to the treatment center. Incorrect doses of medication through either dispensing error, administration error, or prescription error can be deadly. Moreover, many adverse events go unreported.

Instructions: Answer the following questions.

1. What type of event is this? Provide reasons to support your answer.

2. Hospitals perform several types of patient care reviews, usually through a committee. What type of review(s) would be done on this case? Chapter 26 discusses process improvement strategies.
What is the process used to identify the cause of this death, who needs to be involved in the investigation, and what tools should be used to analyze the situation?

3. Discuss what kinds of changes are likely to result in an improved system for treating patients using toxic medications.

Adapted from:

**Submitting Your Work**

Put your responses in a Microsoft Word document. Save it in a location and with the proper naming convention: `username-CourseName-section-Unit 8 Assignment.doc` (username is your Kaplan username, section is your course section, and 8 is your unit number). When you are ready to submit it, go to the Dropbox and complete the steps below:

1. Click the link that says “Submit an Assignment.”
2. In the “Submit to Basket” menu, select Unit 8: Assignment.
3. In the “Comments” field, make sure to add at least the title of your paper.
4. Click the “Add Attachments” button.
5. Follow the steps listed to attach your Word document.

To view your graded work, come back to the Dropbox or go to the Gradebook after your instructor has evaluated it. Make sure that you save a copy of your submitted Assignment.
## Unit 8 Assignment Grading Rubric = 40 points

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment Requirements</th>
<th>Points possible</th>
<th>Points earned by student</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Identifies and the event that occurred at the facility, supporting decision with information provided in the case study.</td>
<td>0-10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discusses patient care reviews that relate to the situation in the case study.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discusses the process used to identify the cause of this death, who needs to be involved in the investigation, and what tools should be used to analyze the situation.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discusses what kinds of changes are likely to result in an improved system for treating patients using toxic medications.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total (Sum of all points)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Points deducted for spelling, grammar, and/or APA errors. (See Writing Deductions Rubric in Doc Sharing)</td>
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<td>Adjusted total points</td>
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<td>Instructor Feedback:</td>
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