

IPHER

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## Interprofessional Health Education and Research

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### Case of Jane Black

Jane Black is a 32 year old mother of three who has just been admitted into the hospital unit that you are working on today. She has diabetes and is 22 weeks pregnant. She was found at home by her husband after she became drowsy and was having difficulty focusing. She has an IV of D5W running and was given a loading dose of insulin. Since she is a newly diagnosed diabetic who also has to deal with her pregnancy she has been admitted to hospital by Dr. Johansen. Mrs. Black's three children came in with her and her husband as there was no one else at home to take care of them. They are two girls- 3 years old and 7 years old and a boy who is 5 years old.

They live in a 3 bedroom apartment that they rent. In talking to Mr. Black you learn that one of their daughters (7 year-old) has Cystic Fibrosis and requires a great deal of his wife's time to ensure her lungs remain as clear as possible. Mr. Black asks if there is anywhere he can smoke. You notice that he has tobacco stained fingers. He also is somewhat overweight. Mr. Black comments to you that he is concerned about how he can manage the children with his wife in the hospital and wonders how quickly she can be discharged home. Mrs. Black also informs you that she has weakness in the right side of her body because of a previous 'small stroke' she had 5 years ago. She tells you she is worried that she may need to take insulin by injection because she is right handed and does not have the full use of her hand because of the stroke.

On assessing Mrs. Black, you find out from her that she experiences a great deal of thirst and has had frequency for a while, but thought it was just due to her pregnancy. She also tells you that her mother is a diabetic. Her mother has had a lot of problems with her eyesight and recently her doctor told her that her kidneys are starting to fail.