

Scenario #4 Lauren



You are the nurse on a busy Medical/Surgical Unit. Lauren, a 25 yr old female was admitted yesterday following surgical repair of a left tibia/fibula fracture. You are her nurse, and you ask her how she is feeling. She also tells you how she broke her leg. You ask her if she needs pain medication.

“I’ve been sad and down in the dumps. It’s like I’m in a big hole and can’t climb out. I can’t even cry anymore. Yesterday, I stumbled as I walked into traffic. I fell down and broke my leg before I got there.”

“People look at me funny, and it’s all my fault. I’m such a loser. I can’t talk to anyone right now. I’m too tired. I don’t think I’ll ever get better.”

“At least when my leg is hurting, I can feel something. I don’t care if you give me a pain pill or not. I won’t be getting up anyway. You can give me whatever you want. All I want to do is sleep.”