

4. The most important patient-centered outcome is bleeding prevention.

## Chapter 27

### Hydrocephalus

1. Evidence: Yes. Emma's fussiness, holding the back of her head, intermittent periods of lethargy, and repetitive, rapid eye blinking are signs of increased intracranial pressure (ICP).

2. Assumptions:

- a. Emma's posterior fossa tumor removal places her at risk for cerebral edema with associated increased ICP.
- b. Emma's external ventricular drainage (EVD) may be occluded and should be assessed. Positioning of the EVD is important to evaluate because the cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) drains by gravity; repositioning may be necessary to promote adequate drainage and decrease ICP.
- c. The physical signs and behavior are indicative of increased ICP, which may occur if Emma's EVD is obstructed or is draining improperly. There is evidence that CSF is draining on the mother's clothing, which is an abnormal finding with an EVD; the EVD is a closed system, and breakage or malfunction may cause the child further harm if bacteria colonize the reservoir.

3. The nurse should inspect the EVD site, assess Emma's neurologic