

Instructor's Toolkit for Eugene Shaw's Monologue

Eugene's introductory monologues can be used in a number of different ways. Here are a few to consider:

- Large class discussion
- Small group discussion during class or clinical
- Reflective journaling assignment
- Web-based assignment: Listen to the audio and/or read the script then discuss and summarize the group's conclusions.

Here are some questions which might be used to stimulate discussion:

1. What issues do you hear in the monologue that may be related to Eugene's military service?
2. What are Eugene's strengths?
3. What are your primary concerns for Eugene?
4. What additional information would you like to have about this scenario?
5. How does the history of trench foot complicate Eugene's ability to manage his peripheral vascular disease?

Some of these questions were adapted from the following publication: Miller, T. W. (2012). *The Praeger Handbook of Veterans' Health* [4 volumes]: History, Challenges, Issues, and Developments.

Possible answers:

1. Issues: Eugene talks about his service in the Korean War as a Marine. He reflects on his experiences in Korea and the extreme weather conditions that he was exposed to and the effects it had on his feet. He mentions that he had his toes amputated. As a Veteran of the Korean war, he is also at risk for complications of Agent Orange exposure. This increases risks for respiratory and prostate cancers, chloracne, Type 2 Diabetes, ischemic heart disease, soft tissue sarcoma, and peripheral neuropathy.
2. Strengths: Eugene has a loving relationship with his wife and friends. He appears to have coped with and successfully compensated through the years with his war-related injuries. He has continued to receive medical care at the Veterans Administration (VA) facility in the past and continues to see his primary care doctor through the VA.
3. Concerns: Eugene's physical health is declining, and chronic medical conditions leave him vulnerable to future physical and mental health issues. He doesn't connect diabetic care with quality of life and would benefit from education on disease management as a

means to prevent further complications.

4. Other information: What support does Eugene have? What concerns would you have once he is discharged?
5. Complications related to surgery: Infection, mobility, falls prevention, medication safety, blood sugar management, dietary management. Smoking increases the likelihood that he may experience additional peripheral vascular problems.

Other ideas:

Have students listen to the monologue and respond to a set of questions before coming to class.

We encourage you to be creative and add to the monologues or create new monologues that match the content in your curriculum. You might consider expanding the case until you have monologues and simulation scenarios that can be used throughout the entire curriculum.

You may wish to make the following points with students:

- Not all veterans that have served in the Korean War experienced war-related injuries e.g. trench foot also known as immersion foot.
- The VA provides many supportive services to veterans experiencing service-related injuries.
- Not all veterans are eligible for healthcare through the Veterans Administration (VA). Eligibility is a complex issue that veterans should discuss with designated individuals at a VA facility.