

# Pamela Pinkston Scenario

# John Pinkston

## Your life:

- You have been married to Pamela for 25 years. You have a daughter Andrea who lives nearby.
- Your wife was involved in a serious car accident almost three months ago and has a serious brain injury. She is now receiving rehabilitative services at the Pleasant Hills Nursing Facility.
- You come to visit your wife daily.
- You have had your own construction business for 10 years.

## You value:

- Helping your wife recover from the accident
- Maintaining your business while helping your wife
- Helping your daughter through this difficult time

## You appear in Scene Two

## **Summary of the Scenario**

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This case occurs in Pleasant Hills Nursing Home and Rehabilitation Center: a large facility with over 120 residents. Pamela Pinkston is a 51-year-old resident who is recovering from a brain injury sustained in a car accident. She has been here for two months and is receiving rehabilitative services. Pamela's ability to move and talk has been severely reduced by the accident. Her memory is impaired and her thinking is slow. She is not competent to make her own decisions at this time. Her husband, John, has power of attorney for health care and is her health care agent. Pamela has been making steady progress, but recently her family and nursing staff have noticed a decline in her condition.

## Lives

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- **Linda Fuller**, CNA
- **Jason Jones**, social worker
- **Melanie Wilson**, CNA
- **John Pinkston**, Pamela's husband
- **Mai Lee**, Director of Nursing
- **Carl Hamilton**, Maintenance man/housekeeper
- **Andrea Pinkston**, Pamela and John's daughter
- **Ron Records**, Documentation Specialist

## Who is in each Scene

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- **Scene One** (on Blue paper): Jason, Melanie, Linda
- **Scene Two** (Green): John, Andrea, Linda
- **Scene Three** (Yellow): Jason, Mai, Carl
- **Scene Four** (Pink): Jason, Linda, Melanie

## **John Pinkston, age 53**

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### **Starter page**

- You have been married to Pamela for 25 years. You have a daughter Andrea who lives nearby.
- Your wife was involved in a serious car accident almost three months ago and has a serious brain injury. She is now receiving rehabilitative services at the Pleasant Hills Nursing Facility.
- You come to visit your wife daily.
- You have had your own construction business for 10 years.

### **You value:**

- Helping your wife recover from the accident
- Maintaining your business while helping your wife
- Helping your daughter through this difficult time

**Props:** None

**Scenes you are in:** Two (Green)

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## **Pamela Pinkston, Individualized Care Plan**

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*(excerpted)*

### **Diagnosis:**

51-year-old woman, admitted after 5-day admission at Badger Memorial for traumatic brain injury suffered in a car accident.

Intracranial injuries have caused hemorrhaging resulting in excessive sleepiness, impaired memory, faulty judgment, as well as slowed speech and thinking. Patient requires assistance in most activities of daily living.

Husband, John P. Pinkston, is resident's health care agent due to patient's severely reduced capacity to make health care decisions.

### **Requires Assistance with:**

- bathing
- transferring
- speech therapy
- medication management
- range-of-motion exercises with arms and legs

### **Safety:**

Walking and movement are still problematic. Patient requires assistance. May walk independently with ambulatory aides such as a cane or walker.

**Avoid visits after 6:00p.m.**

## **Warm-Up**

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### **Mai, John, and Andrea**

- John, Andrea, and Mai are in the waiting room discussing the care of Pamela.
- Mai says that she has seen some small signs of improvement in Pamela's condition since her admission.
- Mai mentions that there are many exercises the staff members have planned to improve Pamela's movement and other physical abilities.

### **Carl, Jason, Linda, Melanie, and Ron**

- Each of you has just attended a training session on the importance of teamwork.
- Talk about the ways communication among direct caregivers, managers, and service professionals can improve resident care.
- Discuss each staff person's role regarding resident care.

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## Scene Two: Green

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**Time:** Tuesday, 2:00 pm, outside of Room 136

**Participants:** John and Linda, and Andrea

**Linda:** Hi, John, how are things going today?

**John:** Well, I have to say that I'm a little worried about my wife. She was making great progress, but in the last couple of weeks she seems to have gone downhill. Today she didn't even respond when I spoke to her. She just stared out the window.

**Andrea:** It was almost like Mom didn't even recognize us today. I'm getting very worried about her.

**Linda:** Well, I understand your concern. You know, recovering from such a traumatic injury sometimes has its ups and downs. Was she able to tell you if anything was wrong?

**John:** I asked her, but she wouldn't answer. When I tried to hug her, she pulled away from me and got tears in her eyes.

**Linda:** You know, we really have to be patient with Pamela as she recovers. There will be good days and bad days. I'm sure that she'll be back on the road to recovery in no time.

**John:** She wouldn't even touch her lunch. I understand she didn't eat breakfast either. She just pulled up the covers and seemed really detached.

**Andrea:** It sure is difficult. I hate to see my mom acting so strangely.

**Linda:** You know, we have people here who might give you more information about the recovery process. You could talk to Mai Lee, our Director of Nursing, about that. Do you think that would be helpful?

**John:** Yes, I think it would. Thank you for offering.

**Linda:** Anything we can do! I hope tomorrow is a better day for your wife. I'll see you later.

**John:** Thanks, Linda. See you tomorrow.

**Andrea:** Bye, Linda.