



Steve has all the classic signs and symptoms of passing a kidney stone. While extremely painful, the stone should pass without permanent damage within the next eight to eighteen hours. The pain will stop when the stone reaches his bladder. In some people, the pain will cause vomiting. Cessation of the pain after 24 hours does not mean the stone has passed; verification requires advanced technology. Permanent kidney damage begins within 5-14 days if the stone is not removed. Note: there may be multiple stones.

Give Steve the strongest pain medication you have with you; if it does not contain codeine, it may not help. Encourage him to drink water to help force the stone to pass. Remain in camp until the stone passes and Steve is able to travel. If the stone has not passed by morning consult your program director and a physician and arrange for an evacuation, likely via snowmobile. If possible, arrange for pain medication during transport.