

Clinical Reflection

This week during clinical I got to experience the ER and triage for the first time. Triage was not what I expected because I expected the waiting room to be packed and people rushing in with all sorts of crazy things happening, when in reality not much happened at all. I was told it was because people are scared to come into the hospital during COVID times because it is the dirtiest place you could be and they don't want to catch anything further than what they already have. We saw only about five different people come in to triage, all with COVID symptoms. I got to give an IM injection in the ventrogluteal for the first time, and I was a bit nervous at first because I had never done a deep IM injection, but it went very smoothly. I also got to witness a guy come in and say his oxygen saturation was at 77% and that he couldn't breathe, but he was walking and talking just fine, so the nurses were confused at his claim. We went to the ER next and I performed a bedside CPE on a man who was very concerned that the staff was not listening to him. He felt that the nurses just kind of brushed off everything he was saying and didn't take him seriously. This was a big issue because we should always make our patients feel like their needs are our priority. We had to tell the nurse and make sure the physician actually came to talk to the patient before he was discharged. I can use this experience to help me in my career because I got to personally experience the patient express their feelings and concerns about their care, so I can apply what he said to make sure my patients never feel that way.