

Reflective Page 2

We started clinicals on the third week of nursing school and for the first time I had a completely uneventful week. I never thought that having nothing to do would make me so happy, however being in ICU it was the greatest feeling because it meant that my patient was stable. My first experience in ICU was a couple of months ago here in Plainview and I can truthfully say that experience made me not want to work there because I witnessed two patients the same age as my mother pass from covid and there was nothing we could do due to a DNR in place. I had no one to talk to about my feelings towards ICU and was extremely terrified that the same would happen during clinicals. I am extremely grateful that both weeks in ICU proved to be different than my first experience. I am aware that it will not always have stable patients and a nurse working in that field would need a heart of steel. For example, on the second day of clinical, my nurse Keeli had an 18-year-old patient pass unexpectedly about 30 minutes before we arrived and within two hours, she had a new patient in the same room. I asked her how she dealt with the emotions and sadly she said she had become accustomed to numbing herself to her work. To an extent I understand because I myself have had to numb myself to my work at the hospital but to do that everyday and not knowing what each day would bring, would burn me out fast. I loved my experience, but I know for sure now that ICU is not my place to be. As my time in nursing school ends, I am more convinced that I am to be where life begins in labor and delivery.

I know you said you didn't want a reflection at 11:55 but after I dropped off my classmates, I had to attend a meeting for work, and I am just now winding down. Thank you for all that you have done for us this module Mrs.Jones!