

ED Reflection

Step 1 Description

I thought following/working in the ED was very helpful both in a learning and teambuilding aspect. I helped give a patient Zofran for nausea and watched a CODE, she was in acute renal failure and had a high potassium. My other patient was in chronic renal failure. Working as a nurse one must have good communication skills as well as learn how to work as a team to accomplish a common goal. Being on the floor and following and helping my nurse also gave me a chance to see what it was like for a patient to CODE. This was something new for me considering I have never been on the ED floor before. Even though I learned about it in class it was very different seeing it in person. It was a fun/sad learning experience that really gave me perspective on how to approach different situations and overall gave me a lot to think about in choosing what floor I want to work on as a graduate nurse in February.

Step 4 Analysis

During this experience I had lots of fun and learned a lot of new things, and it is a fast-paced environment which I loved. I really liked how everyone worked together as a team, and how friendly everyone was. I learn way more when I am not intimidated. It was an amazing experience seeing everyone act like a family. The doctor had walked in and explained a few things and where to find the appropriate supplies for during a CODE. The nurse I followed (was very thorough and helped me when I was struggling with certain things and pointed me in the right direction. She answered all of my questions that I had and sat down with me and showed me certain things in MedTech like the labs, etc. This was also a good opportunity to apply past knowledge from the module and skills we have learned in the previous modules and see how much we have retained as students. I was also able to give meds through an IV.

Step 2 Feelings

Walking into ED floor I was very nervous, as I did not know what to expect. I was also anxious and did not want to mess up.

There was so much critical thinking involved and I had to tie everything together that I had learned from school. I honestly thought my patient with acute renal failure was not going to get better because of her blood pressure and heart rate. It was so amazing to witness her progress after thinking she was not going to make it.

Step 5 Conclusion

Overall this was a great experience and I am honestly considering applying to the ED. The whole time I was there with knowledge and I was very productive and used my time wisely. I was able to witness a CODE and give meds. The diagnosis was engaging and there is not anything I would say that could have made the experience better. I would not change anything with the experience and would keep it the same.

Step 3 Evaluation

The best thing about being on the floor was that I was able to see the steps of what to do during CODE and during an emergency situation, and it was a very unique learning experience. We have never gotten to do something like this before because it was different floor, so it was something new that was interesting and kept us engaged the whole time and our minds constantly working hard.

Step 6 Action Plan

I think this type of clinical experience and situations should be included

in all modules from early on. I honestly think we should work on the floor before coming to module 7. There is a lot of students can learn from the ED and during emergency situations like that and it is engaging and there is never a dull moment and students are constantly doing something and learning something new. The best part is not every case is the same. This also teaches students how to work as a team when they are nurses, as teamwork is essential on any floor. The things we learned on the ED can directly be applied to bedside nursing, and I plan on improving on the constructive criticism I received so I can be a better nurse.