

My experiences during my clinical preceptorship have been productive and very educational. My first shift was mainly observation and my preceptor showed me his routine and how he works throughout the day. During shift change and report the night nurse was more than happy to share the patient's chart and asked me personally if there was anything she could explain further or anything to clarify, that was the first time another nurse acknowledged me during report and asked if I understood the information presented. I appreciated it when my preceptor asked me what my goals were and what I would like to be exposed to during my shifts. He showed me an overview of charting and numerous ways to chart efficiently. Throughout my first shift I gave meds with my preceptor, he showed me neat tips and tricks to make mixing meds a breeze. In addition, I performed a successful blood draw on my first attempt! It has been since before COVID that I had the opportunity to attempt a blood draw, I appreciated the encouragement and praise I received from my preceptor. I loved the camaraderie the floor had with each other, everyone was very warm and welcoming to me and my fellow classmates. I could tell I would enjoy my precepting shifts when the secretary and everyone else told me I was "one of them" and "part of the family now." It really made me feel cared for and assured that I had people around me who would help me grow not only as a nurse but as a person.

During my second shift I was a bit early before shift change and the night charge nurse told me it was going to be a busy day. I could see from the assignment sheets that everyone had 5 patients today due to the floor being short staffed. When the other day shift nurses arrived, I could tell the day was going to be challenging based on their reactions. Each nurse had at least one assignment that was on the opposite side of the floor from the rest of their patients. This caused increased irritation to especially my preceptor due to one of his patients needed constant attending to. I remember we were running around from patient to patient, and I remember being hungrier and more exhausted earlier in the day. To be honest my preceptor's frustration was a bit frightening, although he took the time to take a breath and teach me throughout the day. We ended up discharging one patient which took a good load off the rest of the day. On a positive note, it was my first time documenting one patient's care throughout the day. In addition to documentation, it was the first time I performed an intramuscular injection in the deltoid of a patient. The patient was surprised that I already gave him the injection, I was relieved when he said he did not feel it at all. To say the least I learned a lot with the guidance of my preceptor throughout the day.

My third and fourth shifts I was assigned one and two patients. I received the same patients I cared for during my second shift. While charting my preceptor was impressed how fast and accurate my documentation was, I am proud to say I definitely improved compared to the first time I documented. I also had the opportunity to successfully perform my first straight cath with the help of my preceptor and the patient's primary nurse. I appreciated how the other nurse offered for me to perform a straight cath and taught me the basics of it. I was also given the chance to give report during shift change and wrote new orders with the guidance of my preceptor. I had a lot of "firsts" and opportunities to continuously improve and learn during

my first four shifts with the help from not only my preceptor, but from the other great staff on the floor. I eagerly look forward to the rest of my preceptorship and the new aspects to learn.