

Madison Gage
Reflection I

My clinical preceptorship up until this point has been a very beneficial experience. Every day that I have a shift, I learn more and I'm becoming more comfortable with the upcoming transition from student to nurse. It has been very nerve-wracking at times when I realize I soon won't have a preceptor to rely on when I'm not sure about something. With that being said, I've seen how many nurses still ask questions, and that they perform even better because of it. I have learned that it is always okay to ask questions, and not asking questions is only going to put you and the patient at risk. Through this preceptorship I have gotten to take care of many types of patients and have seen many different medical emergencies. Being in the Emergency room, I really feel like I'm getting to see everything that I learned in school and more. Skills that I've gotten to work on is time-management and prioritization. Time-management was something I've always struggled with because we usually only took care of one patient during clinical, and that would take me almost the entire clinical time to take care of all their needs for the day. Being in the ER, I think I've had up to 8 different patients a day, and I've gotten to practice how to manage them effectively. I am now better at clustering patient care and being more efficient with the care that I provide. As far as prioritization goes, my preceptor asks me daily which order I would see my patients and why. This has really challenged my thinking, but it has been very beneficial, especially since I'm starting in the ER in October. The ER is all about prioritizing care and allocating resources efficiently to take care as many patients as possible. I have also gotten to communicate with physicians, which before I thought was terrifying and still feel that way sometimes. I've learned that physicians are not that intimidating and most really value your opinion and communicating with them is necessary.

Overall, I've really enjoyed my preceptorship time, and value everything that I'm getting to learn. It feels like all the puzzle pieces are coming together and things are starting to make sense. It is one thing learning from a textbook but getting to see it play out in real life has been very beneficial and unique. Also, doing 12-hour shifts has been hard but is really preparing me to start a full-time job working three 12's a week.