

My remaining shifts were busy and productive. I had the opportunity to be with three different nurses during shifts six through ten. It was good to see different perspectives and teaching styles between the three. All the nurses had their own routine and their way in doing things throughout the shift. Each method was unique and efficient in its own perspective. I enjoyed seeing the different styles and teachings, in addition, I enjoyed learning from each of the nurses. During my preceptorship I have noticed different work environments and team cultures on the different floors I had the opportunity to be on. Each one was unique in their teamwork and environment. I noticed one floor had a toxic workplace culture that promoted gossiping about other coworkers which resulted in a rift between the workers on the floor. I found that environment not pleasant and would find myself to be uncomfortable from time to time. Although none of the staff directly made me feel excluded or alienated, there were times where I was not comfortable approaching the other staff for questions. As I progressed through my preceptorship the main unit, I was assigned to warmed up to me and were more open and welcoming compared to the first few shifts. The other units I was on were with staff nurses, and in both units, I quickly saw how their teamwork and culture differed from my main unit. The teamwork was superb and other nurses would jump in and ask others if they needed any help which was nice. I do not see that as often as it should be in nursing, but it was great to see a caring team environment.

Throughout my time in pediatrics, I got to see a whole new perspective of nursing, its own specialty and environment I enjoyed learning. My view of pediatric healthcare changed when I realized pediatrics is not always a “sunshine and rainbows”, happy place. I have seen the tough cases with CPS and child abuse and honestly it is hard to see. My experiences opened my eyes to one of the many issues in children of the community. Seeing parents who were not in the picture that would come to see their child in such a state of hurt, the tears in their eyes, and the devastation on their face spoke for itself – it was heartbreaking. It brought tears to my eyes to see these parents and especially the children who were affected hurting so much. As I discussed it with my nurse, I was with she told me she too has a difficult time dealing with cases that are filled with emotion. She said it is important to remember that the patient was the focus and concern, she used these to help block out those feelings of sadness of the situation. I am grateful to see the good of pediatrics, the joy and smiles from kiddos that are on the path to recovery. To the kids that have been on the units/in the hospitals long term, I had the opportunity to care for them and brighten their stay with anything that would make them laugh and smile. Overall, I enjoyed my time in pediatrics, I am grateful to have this experience and perspective of nursing. I have learned many things I plan on integrating into my practice to further my skill and experience for the future.