

Clinicals this week was a good opportunity for me to work on my confidence in the hospital. I noticed last week that I still get pretty nervous, and it was something I wanted to work on. I feel like I did a better job this week speaking to patients and performing the skills I was required. Both of my nurses this week were very willing to teach, and I learned a lot about the way their day flows and the order they do things in. Today I got to watch one of the other students put in an NG tube, and the nurse let us listen to the air in the stomach when checking for placement. We had learned about NG tubes in module 2 but I had not yet gotten to see one put in so I was interested to see how the patient did and how the process went in the hospital setting. Honestly, you could hear the air from the syringe even without a stethoscope. The patient was strictly NPO, because anything they swallowed would go straight to the lungs but usually the nurse said they can swallow water or ice chips to help with putting in an NG tube. That was the main experience in clinicals that was newer to me, while the others were more just practicing interactions with patients such as vitals, medications, and assessments. I also drew a patient's blood for labs and hung an IVPB today, which are things I have not had a lot of practice in the hospital setting. I liked the patient's I had this week, because it was more of a variety of situations compared to the renal telemetry floor I had gotten used to in module 3. I got to listen to a heart murmur, and I got to see pitting edema this week, which was very helpful so I can know what to look for in the future. Overall, I would say that I gained a lot more confidence since last week which was my goal for the week. I still have room for improvement of course, but I can say that progress was made. I think something that I can take away from the nurses this week is how intentional they were with their patients, which is something I would want to implement in my practice when I am a nurse. They actually held conversations

with the patients when they could have just gone in to do what they needed to do then left.

The nurses also did their best to work on things the patient asked in a timely way and not just when they felt like it.