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Midterm Post Conference Reflection:

So far during these 5 weeks of clinical experience time, I have learned so much and really enjoyed my time with my preceptor. My preceptor is fantastic, and you can tell she really loves her job and teaching others about her job. I could not have asked for a better preceptor. My preceptor is also great about making sure I have chances to try things and that I am comfortable doing things that are needed and necessary in the NICU. I have done all sorts of things from inserting an OG tubes to attempting to start an IV on a sweet little, tiny baby vein, among many other things as well! I have enjoyed doing all the cares on the babies, which includes changing diapers, feeding babies, giving baths, vital signs, temperatures, making sure baby positions are changed often, as well as making sure baby is safe and happy. I will say, it is a lot more work than I thought it would be, being in the NICU, but I have thoroughly enjoyed every moment of it. If I did not already have a job lined up, I would love to make a career within the NICU.

There have not been many things that I have felt uncomfortable with, but there have been things that I kind of question. They are not nursing problems, but more a nurse looking at other positions from a nurse perspective. As the nurse we do a hands-on physical assessment of each baby every day. One thing I noticed is that the doctors and nurse practitioners, do not always look at or put hands on the babies when making rounds. I am nowhere near a doctor, nor do I want to judge how they do things, because they know what they are doing, but more of it just makes me think about how they could really know in detail how the baby is doing, by not looking at the babies physically and only their labs and computer findings. I will say I have enjoyed getting to be a part of the doctors rounds on my patients and getting to see how much they trust and listen to their nurses. There is a great dynamic most of the time between the Doctors and Nurses, that you don't see often.