

## Reflection

I am doing my preceptorship on South 10-day shift. My preceptor is Jessica, and she is awesome. In the beginning I was feeling nervous and sad because I found an enjoyment in ICU. I was really hoping I got some type of ICU because I work in a similar floor. LTAC. I had mixed emotions about south10, but so far, I have enjoying it more than I thought. I got the hang of it really quick, and it is so fast paced which I tend to find enjoyment in that. I like having a lot to do yet knowing I can handle it. It's a satisfaction to me. Although there are things, I am not sure how she knows things for example when labs are to be drawn or when new orders are places, things like that, but I have tried to watch her when she gets on the charts and see how she pulls this information. If I don't know then I usually ask her, but I like to find things out on my own first. I guess is don't want her to think I have not learned anything throughout nursing school. I got better at it but, I still need to find a good groove to things, but I feel like once I do, I will be fine. I do ask a lot of questions now that I gained more confidence and she answers them and does not make me feel dumb. Throughout my nursing career, I had not started an IV or drew blood from sticking people. Luckily during this preceptorship, I have done that a lot and I surprisingly I am better than I thought in it. I surprised myself on that and how much I can handle on the floor. I also have started a foley and it was my first time. Jessica guides me through everything, so it helps so much and makes me not have so much anxiety. It was also my first time, so I was kind of nervous to break sterile field, but I did pretty good. What school does not prepare you for is how patients react. This specific patient spit on me, but she was confused. I just did what I had to do and got her comfortable after I was done and went to the bathroom and washed my face. In the moment I was extremely shocked, but I knew I had to get

that done. Jessica got on to her and told her that was not acceptable but to be honest I would not know how to handle that.

I am picking up on a lot of behaviors from the nurses on how to deal with situations because we don't learn that in school, we just get told what to expect but being on the floor I see how nurses handle circumstances and how much of an advocate you have to be for the patients because a lot of doctors put discharge orders for patients they have not visibly seen and their Cath insertion site is still bleeding and they are trying to send them home or the patient still has a critical lab values for example their potassium that they cannot bring down. It is crazy how situations come into perspective when being on the floor and the responsibility following back on you, their nurse. It is kind of scary because you have to be on top of things and keep your patients safe.

What I do need to improve on is teaching my patients on their medications but so far, all my patients know what their medications are its just a few that they do not like Enoxaparin. Other than that, I feel like I am learning a lot and finding myself as a nurse. Being in this module has opened a new level for me and has surprised me on how much I know and how much I do not. I notice things about myself that I did not know I was capable of. Like being confident and taking this role seriously because I do want to learn more and be prepared to be on the floor after graduation. Jessica has really been a great mentor in helping me build this persona of myself and focused on my strength and better my weaknesses. Overall, I have enjoyed every day I am on the floor and always look forward to coming to clinicals.