

SIM this week I feel was beneficial. I enjoy doing the case studies because it allows for me to further develop my critical thinking skills. This is something I believe is very beneficial to have as a nurse. This is because anyone can tell a patient is hurting, but what are you going to do about it? This thinking is what I have developed from this exercise and continue to build on. I was pretty disappointed at first because it didn't seem we weren't answering anything right. I soon realized my answers weren't completely wrong, just not what was needed at that time for the patient. SIM has also helped me realize that there are a lot of good answers on how to care for a patient, but our job is to find which one to prioritize. For example, in our situation today our patient had a high BP as well as a low O2 sat. Both of things need to be addressed however, the O2 sat is the priority. This is because you cannot treat a patient if they are not breathing first. Another exercise we did in SIM that I benefited from was the SBAR aspect. Personally, I often forget how useful the SBAR tool is, it helps organize the patient's information instead of letting it be completely jumbled in my head. We then used the SBAR to act out a phone call with the doctor. At first I found this fairly intimidating because doctors seem to know everything and disregard what you say. In SIM the professors explained there are lines we can cross and some we cannot in order to maintain professionalism. A good tip I learned was to not tell the doctor what is wrong with our patient, but rather than recommend steps to help find a diagnosis. Steps such as lab work, CT scans, and MRI's. I also was told not to let any doctor talk to you anyway they want, have thick skin, and to remember to always be a patient's advocate. Documentation is also a very important thing to help protect our license. To document everything! As soon as it happens, and document word for word, not your personal feelings. I really enjoy talking through these case studies with my professors, it helps to expand my mind and think of the bigger picture.