

Journaling Assignment

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My feelings towards psychiatric nursing are all excitement, being a male nurse, I feel very limited in what I feel best suits my skill set. I did not feel very comfortable in pediatrics but, my neurology clinicals made me feel like I am being led towards that area of nursing. I have absolutely zero concerns with psychiatric clinicals and will enjoy every second of it. Both my aunt and my father work at Sunrise Canyon, so I hear stories all the time of the vast experiences with the patients.. Honestly I really want to do neurology ICU for nursing so I am hoping to fall in love with this field of nursing and module. I personally have had very few encounters with psychiatric patients and the few that I have had the pleasure of taking care of were very nice. I believe that I will be very involved in this module as module 5 was a drag since I am not interested in pediatrics. I actually want to be in this field and I hope to make the most out of this module so whatever the hardest/most knowledgable area of clinicals is, I am all in! Now for the labor and delivery portion of this module, I actually might be a bit terrified.

I personally have never had a psychiatric issue myself (unless the Indianapolis Colts are losing) but my mother was on drugs for most of her life and have seen her in psychosis/altered reality. She had picked me up from school for lunch while on methamphetamines and the things she did and said were very scary. I did have to run away from the car and eventually call my dad to take me back to school, where she came to the school right after that and called me Randy (my name is Jay) and knocked down everything on the front office desk. This led to her being arrested later that day for a separate incident but she has been 3 years clean and the best possible version of herself today. I guess that is a reason why I love neurology, you can see someone at their absolute lowest and then becoming completely healthy again. Seeing someone on drugs where their reality was completely off was not traumatic to me, more sad because you want to help them but no way an adult is listening to a teenager. Please do not think this is a trigger for

me in class or anything, it has taught me a lot and my mother is now 3 years clean and trying to be the mom she wishes she would have been. Also my perception of mental illnesses may be wrong but I feel like drug dependence is a type of mental illness maybe (I could just google the answer but I want to pay attention in class as much as possible)? I hope you will be able to teach me the right definitions for this module! From the stories I have heard from previous students this has been an amazing module and I cannot wait to start.

I do not have any fears or concerns for this module. I want to embrace and experience all areas of what humans experience. I always believe in love thy neighbor in my faith based background. I believe that my CNA experience and being raised by a single parent (Dad) as a single child just taught me to be “tough” and not let emotions get in the way of anything. Now this does not mean I do not care or am emotionally attached to my patients (you would not be human if you didnt) but when it comes to outside emotions like family, I can easily tune it out and become the best nurse I can be. These emotions affect the way I respond because when something major happens at home I do not bring it to work and affect the patients. I believe that the patients would rather not hear about drama at home when they are trying to get home themselves. I believe that these thoughts will make me the best possible learner for this module.

My expectations tomorrow are to expand my knowledge, critical thinking, and nursing skills/judgement. I want to find the best way to care for these patients and what activities ease their stay. I also hope but do not expect to fall in love with psychiatric nursing. I hope to learn more about the human mind and the different types of illnesses. I also want to learn about what can affect the mind that is not illness related (such as my mom's experience). I want to learn about all the different illnesses that this module has to offer. 3 questions I would like answered

are, can someone's brain be permanently ruined from drugs? Is drug dependence a psychiatric illness? Is psychiatric nursing a branch of neurology?