

These past two weeks I have been following my preceptor on the mom and baby floor and in the nursery. I have spent most of my time at the hospital learning in the newborn nursery. As the student, I have participated in many different things while shadowing my preceptor.

At first I was very nervous to start my preceptorship. I have only done 3 ½ shifts so far because I have to do half shifts on class days. I have enjoyed my time so far and have made extreme knowledge gains. My preceptor is encouraging and helps push me to try new things, even when I am scared.

Throughout my clinical shifts so far, everything has been great. I have had the opportunity to give newborns their first bath, give vitamin K injections and Hepatitis B vaccines, perform newborn assessments, watch a C-section delivery, and so much more. I will say it is a little difficult at first getting the hang of everything, but all things are going a lot smoother now.

I have definitely used some of my previous knowledge from nursing school to help me during my preceptorship. Module 6 taught me a lot about caring for the infants and how to help the moms after they give birth. I have seen a lot of new things so far, and I have had a couple different preceptors. Seeing how each of them have different perspectives on things has been interesting.

If I were to do something differently so far, it would be to have more confidence. I have gotten more comfortable with taking care of the newborn babies, but I feel like I can grow and become more confident. I have learned how to care for an infant from the second they are born until the parents take them home from the hospital. I have also learned how to provide support and care for the new moms and families.

Overall, I have really enjoyed my time on the mom and baby floor this far. My preceptor has been very kind and willing to teach me. I feel like I know a lot more about this area of nursing now. I will be able to use all of my new knowledge and skills later in my nursing career. I might consider a nursing career in this field if the rest of my preceptorship shifts go as well as they have been.