

## Midterm Reflection

I was nervous to start preceptorship due to the fear of actually being on my own. I was nervous about the preceptor I would get and how they would react to me and I hoped they liked me. Overall, my preceptorship has been so fun. She is amazing she is so knowledgeable and likes to test my skills and encourages me to get out of my comfort zone. I see new things everyday there are so many surgeries done each day most I never knew even existed. She wants me to take every opportunity I can to do everything on my own. She has really taught me not to be afraid of the unknown to take that and use it as fuel to learn. She really inspires me to be better at everything I do to never be satisfied of the skills you have to always look for more to learn and when you feel like you've learned all you can go somewhere else.

I have used this opportunity to figure out really what kind of nurse I want to be. It is such a wake-up call from clinicals these are my patients I have access to everything they need. I have to critically think and use my judgement. One of my patients had a angiogram and had a TR band placed and I had to learn the protocol to start removing it. I have never even seen one of them ever in the hospital. I was little intimidated by it when my preceptor was explaining to me what it was and knowing the only thing that was protecting my patient from bleeding out was this little band was kind of nerve racking. I researched it and felt confident that I could do it the first couple of times of me going in to release air from it I had no problems. The third time I go in there I started to release air and blood just start gushing out I quickly replaced the air and made sure it stopped. My patient was impatient and wanted to go home but I had to explain I did not feel safe to try to remove any more for another hour. Just because I wanted to be safe and make sure my patient was safe.

I have enjoyed my time on this unit and have grown to make lifelong friends and a better understanding of what I am about to be a part of. It is nice to know I have people on my side that believe in me and can give me advice. I have a better understanding of my patients just because I have the time to really care for them and get feedback from them. I have been so grateful for the experience and opportunity's that I think I will come back to this floor later on in my career because I felt like I belonged here and I loved the environment of this unit. This is a floor where they do not start off on it has all kinds of nurses on it cardiac, ICU, orthopedic, and pediatrics. They all have different background and experience they share with each other. I think that is why I still chose to start off in a ICU unit just so I can have experience and that I can share someday when I do end up in a unit like this.