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9/16/2022
SIM Reflection

I think this SIM lab felt more beneficial than a lot of the ones we have done in the other modules. I was expecting to go in and review skills and work on our case studies, but it turned out to be a lot more fun and challenging than that. I had a really great experience and learned a lot even though it was only a short amount of time.

I enjoyed reviewing the case I was given and practicing giving report as if I were a nurse during a shift change. I believe I did a good job with my simulation and caught onto the anaphylactic reaction relatively quickly. It was a very interesting experience because knowing what to do in a perfect, textbook world is much different than practicing in the real world or a simulation situation. Initially, I found myself hesitant to recognize my patient's symptoms as abnormal. I was afraid of being wrong even though I had a feeling the symptoms weren't related to the admission diagnosis or medical history. Looking back, I wish I had been more confident and assertive in caring for the needs of my patient. Even if I had been wrong about the anaphylaxis and stopped the infusion when I wasn't supposed to, I could have just restarted the infusion once I had ruled out anaphylaxis. This would not have caused any harm and should have been the first thing I did.

In addition, I enjoyed watching my peers go through their own scenarios. At times, it was easier to see what needed to be done in the situation when you weren't involved as opposed to when you are the one taking care of the patient. In my opinion, this is because you aren't absorbed in your checklist of things that you need to do. Being so agenda oriented can draw you away from carefully looking at your patient and their concerns and attitudes.

My favorite activity that we did was finding everything wrong with Dr. Thomas's room. It sounds absurd that a patient's room can get that dirty, but all the little things add up. It also solidified the knowledge that just being in the patient's room can tell you a lot about their condition. Overall, I loved going to the SIM lab on Thursday and enjoyed participating in all the activities.