

Over the past several weeks, I have completed 120 hours in the newborn nursery. In following my preceptor, I have got to experience many different things in the newborn world. As the student I have done all skills and assessments with my preceptor nurse.

At the beginning of the preceptor shifts I was very nervous and was not sure how things were going to go. Now that I have completed all my shifts, I can say that I am much more comfortable at what we do on the mom and baby floor. I have really enjoyed my time on this floor and my preceptor nurse is amazing. She has taught me so many things that I will be able to use in my future nursing career.

I mentioned in my last reflection essay that I have got to see and perform new skills. Now that I am experienced, I get to do all the things by myself under the supervision of my preceptor. I have completed newborn assessments from c-section deliveries and vaginal delivers. I have given newborn medications, performed reflex assessments, got blood from heel sticks. I have seen car seat challenges, an echo, blood draws, observed a placenta, learned how to swaddle perfectly, and so much more. I feel a lot more confident in my nursing skills and patient education after completing the 120 hours on this floor.

Like I previously said in my last reflection, I have used a lot of the information that we got in module 6 to be successful in this preceptorship. I have also used all the information and tips from all the nurses that I have shadowed during this time. Watching how my preceptor performs things such as the newborn assessments has impacted how I perform my own. I love watching other people as well to see the difference in nursing care provided and to see what works best for different people.

Up to this point, my confidence has become way better, and I feel more comfortable taking initiative. If I had to change or do something different throughout the 120 hours, I would put myself out there to see more things. I would have maybe followed other nurses as well to see what was going on in the actual mom and baby rooms. I have made significant gains in my knowledge and experience in the nursery. I have learned how to care for the newborn babies and all mothers in many different circumstances.

Overall, I truly loved every bit of my experience and time here on the mom and baby floor. I had an excellent preceptor who really allowed me to grow as a student and learn from her. Although I will be working as an adult ICU nurse, I can still use all this experience to better my nursing skills and even use this in my real life when I have my own babies. The 120 hours went by so fast, and it was actually very fun to be in this environment.