Midterm Reflection

My first and only clinical shift was November 3rd. Leading up to my first shift, I had a couple of nerves regarding my new role as a preceptee. Although I have always been very involved in my patients' care leading up to module 8, I knew as a module 8 student, I would have more responsibilities and be held to a higher standard. I was nervous but extremely excited to be more hands-on and learn as much as I could.

On my first shift, I was able to finally meet my preceptor and was very grateful for how well we worked together. Throughout the day, I realized that we had many things in common regarding providing care for our patients. During morning report, she showed me a very effective way to receive report and also prioritize the care plans for our patients that day. The beginning of my shift included discussions regarding which patient to visit first and why. My preceptor allowed me to do everything she would regularly do on my first day which allowed me to learn very quickly. I drew up and administered medications, spoke with the patients and their families, discharged a patient, charted, and gave report at the end of my shift. On this specific day, I was in the PICU. Due to the large amount of RSV cases this year, the pediatric floor was full so the PICU was taking many of their patients. I had three patients during my shift and they all were diagnosed with RSV. My day consisted of providing fluids and monitoring the patients. Because the shift was somewhat slow, my preceptor had the opportunity to teach me how to chart during our downtime. Although I have charted patients' vital signs in the past, I found it super helpful to be able to chart all the care that was provided throughout the day. Because I have not seen pediatric patients in a couple of modules, it was a great first day to refamiliarize myself with how things are done in the pediatric world. Based on everything I learned and the experience I gained having only one shift so far, I cannot wait to see how evolved my nursing skills will be by the end of my tenth shift.