

Meagan Britt

Final Reflection

2/19/2023

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Where do I start? These 120 hours have taught me so much and I'm thankful that I had the opportunity to work alongside so many amazing people. Throughout my preceptorship there was a continuous positive learning environment. My preceptor did a great job at pushing me out of my comfort zone to try new things and cheered me on when I was successful. I look forward to joining this floor as an employee and creating a career in Neurology.

During my last five shifts I got to do a few skills I haven't been able to do during my time at school, including changing a colostomy bag and apply a petal catheter on one of our male patients. While my experiences on this floor were mostly positive there were a few times where I created some light in a dark situation. Some of our patients come to the unit knowing their diagnosis, but others find out their diagnosis once they're admitted to the floor, and a few times during my preceptorship I was there for some of the untreatable diagnosis. In these situations, I try hard to put myself in their shoes and imagine what I can do to create a little bit of positivity when there is so much negativity. One of my patients kept mentioning that her hair felt "nasty" but she wasn't allowed to shower yet so I asked if I could wash her hair for her with a shampoo cap and style it. I checked with my preceptor, and she said that it was okay. I remember this situation so well because the patient and I had great conversations while I did her hair and I told her how I started out in cosmetology and what brought me back to the medical field.

I live for the situation that I mentioned above. I love getting to know my patients and provide them a sense of comfort. I can't believe that nursing school is coming to an end, even though I added an extra 16wks due to failing a module and having to drop another, it was worth

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every minute. As cheesy as it sounds, I came in to nursing school with a quote in my head and have strived to live by it in every situation that I encountered in nursing school, “If I can make at least one person feel comfortable in an uncomfortable situation, then I’ve made a difference no matter how small.” I can say with confidence that I think back and remember many situations in nursing school where I made a difference in someone’s life whether it was an instructor, student, nurse, patient, or family member and couldn’t be more thankful for those memories.