

Reflection: FINAL

This clinical experience has been great. I am so thankful for the opportunity to have done Staffing at Covenant Women's and Children's Hospital. I have learned so much and have grown in such a short amount of time. The shifts went by too fast. There needs to be more shifts added on in this module.

I really enjoyed having Mallorie as a preceptor during this time. Although, I wish she challenged me more during the time and made me think more. She was so patient with me especially when I would forget what she told me and I would ask the same thing over and over again. She was knowledgeable and was willing to find the answers to questions she didn't know. She was so great in talking to the pediatric population that I admired and soon wish to get to that level. I was comfortable to ask so many questions and she would always give me an answer. She made me feel like an actual nurse and not just a student. She trusted me and gave me the confidence I needed to take care of the patients with her supervision. She was a great preceptor overall!

The very first shift I was lacking confidence and that was evident in my work. Since then, I have gained so much confidence and was able to do so much on my own. Prior to this clinical experience I would only go to the hospital for school. I never worked at a hospital as a cna or any position of that matter. So, I lacked confidence being in the hospital setting. During this time, I was able to get comfortable in my skills. I am a shy person and ironically, I picked a career where I have to talk to so many people, but I have grown so much in my communication skills. I also learned things to incorporate in my nursing career and things I do not want to do. I have seen some nurses who barely document patient information and some who document a lot. I personally want to document a lot because I can easily be in court one day and my documentation will save me.

In the beginning I really loved the ED and thought that was where I wanted to go but going back again, I really did not like it as much. I never liked the NICU but I found myself loving it and the PICU as well. I liked the floor too and spend most of my clinical hours on the floor. Every shift was different depending on the people who were working. There were some rude nurses and it amazed me how they choose to become a nurse and complain about patients. That is the whole point of nursing is to care for them and be kind. Besides that, there were some really great nurses who were so kind and quick to help when other nurses needed help. It was an eye-opening experience and I could be their coworker one day so I was watching the kind of person/nurse they are. It reminds me how important being kind to everyone is.

Every floor was such a great learning experience and I saw so much. I was sad to see the CPS cases and how common it was. I saw a variety of cases and the best and worst days for families. I was in the PICU and witnessed a family mourning the death of their 14-day old baby. The next day I saw the joy of a couple leaving with their first child. There is beauty in nursing and the compassion you show both of those family during their stay at the hospital. I saw how crazy parents can get and it was understandable because that is their child in the hospital bed. But it is important that they respect us nurses as well.

I also, saw the biggest neck abscess and the doctor drained it and so much puss was coming out that they needed two towels to clean it up. The child did so well during the procedure.