

Final Reflection

Overall, I am so happy with my choice to be working in the emergency department. I have seen some pretty crazy stuff so far. For example, a gunshot wound, a dog bite, necrotizing fasciitis of the scrotum, broken femur, plenty of strokes and brain bleeds, a halfway out catheter and a few cardiac arrests. My most interesting patient started out as a simple GI bleed. He was a younger guy and said he has already been through this in the past. His hemoglobin was at a normal 15 but his stool was very bright and copious blood. It was obvious that he was losing blood fast but the doctors wouldn't believe it because his hemoglobin was still perfect. He was our patient for a while that day and was able to do everything himself. Luckily his son was with him the last time he went to the bathroom down in B pod because he ended up passing out on the toilet and becoming unconscious for about 20 seconds. We safely got him back to his room once he was stable in a wheelchair and got his vitals. His blood pressure had dropped to 88/40 (when it was previously 144/87). Me and my nurse were frantically pushing fluids and calling IR. Luckily we got him up to IR in about 20 minutes after the incident and his hemoglobin had dropped 4 points in just 2 hours. IR was able to coil up the perforation and stop the bleeding. That day was frantic but so much fun. I have enjoyed my time down there very much and cannot wait to start my orientation.