

School Nurse Experience Reflection Questions

1. How has your view of the student population changed?

My view of the student population changed slightly during my school nurse rotation. I did not realize how many kids in high school were on scheduled meds for various things such as ADHD, Diabetes, CP, etc and how many did not want to comply with those meds.

2. How has your view of the school nurse role changed?

Prior to going to my school nurse rotation, I did not realize how much the school nurse did. They are responsible for all scheduled meds of all students, PRN meds, charting for students, staff members who need medical assistance, and any emergency on campus.

3. What surprised you about the school nurse experience?

I was surprised at how many students and faculty utilized the school nurse. We had tons of students all morning and even a few staff members who needed medical assistance.

4. What did you observe during your time there?

I observed the school nurse administering scheduled meds to students, PRN meds for headaches and sore throats, eye drop administration, and diabetic glucose monitoring and blood pressure monitoring in a staff member.

5. How was your experience different from what you expected?

I did not expect the school nurse to be as busy as she was. There were kids at her door almost constantly that needed help or meds.

6. What are some needs/issues related to the health of the school age children that you may not have been aware of?

I did not see any drug issues during my morning at Monterey, but my nurse did inform me that there have been some issues with drugs in this population of kids and they had sent almost 20 ambulances out during this school year because of that problem. There were a few kids that had scheduled meds that did not comply or didn't want their meds which was an issue I wasn't expecting as well.

7. Please list two developmental stages related to the population that you observed.

I observed some peer pressure issues at my school. Some drug complications secondary to peer pressure have happened at my school as well. I also observed identity vs role in this population as the children were navigating their next steps following graduation. I also saw some autonomy v shame and doubt in some kids that came to the office as some of them were "embarrassed" to need help from the school nurse in front of their peers.