

## Midterm Reflection: Alexandra Thompson (Preceptor- Jori Hanlan)

I am very pleased with how my clinical experiences in the adult ED are going. Not only is Jori a patient and kind teacher (and one who's willing to admit when she doesn't know something), everyone I have met has been SUPER welcoming and friendly- from the nurses and aides all the way to the attending physicians. I can tell that everyone is happy in their jobs and with those they work with so that creates a positive and comfortable atmosphere that is supportive when mistakes are made and inspiring of teamwork at every turn. If I was staying in Lubbock after graduation I would DEFINITELY want to work the night shifts with these people.

As far as my comfort level of being in the ED and seeing emergencies before my eyes and getting to practice skills and figuring out the necessary documentation, I'd say that for five shifts, I'm happy with the knowledge I've acquired. I've learned their methods for focused assessments tailored to the identified needs of the patients, how to write summaries of the encounters for when EMS brings them, different methods of getting blood when the physician wants labs drawn and rechecked, how to identify which veins are actually good veins for IV starts (and which ones will become ruined), how to accept help in doing tasks when I may not be able to complete everything myself, and so much more.

For areas of improvement, confidence is definitely up there. I need to stop second guessing myself and be secure in the knowledge I do have so that patient care goes as seamlessly as possible. Another area of improvement is time management. I find myself wanting to spend probably too much time in patient rooms and then I may find myself forgetting the charting that needs to get done but Jori is very good at reminding me when I need to do things (after 10 shifts my goal is to not have her remind me to do charting).

Overall, again, I am very happy with my placement in the ED and with Jori and with all that I've experienced. I definitely think the ED is where I'd like to work and I'm excited for what my next five shifts have in store for me if I've already learned so much thus far. I will continue to strive for improvement and keep myself humble at any learning opportunity.