Covenant School of Nursing Reflective Practice

Learning to be a reflective practitioner includes not only acquiring knowledge and skills, but also the ability to establish a link between theory and practice, providing a rationale for actions. Reflective practice is the link between theory and practice and a powerful means of using theory to inform practice thus promoting evidence based practice." (Tsingos et al., 2014).

Using the Reflective Practice template on page 2, document each step in the cycle. The suggestions in each of the boxes may be used for guidance but you are not required to answer every question. This Reflective Practice document will be reviewed by faculty and then you will post the final reflection in your LiveBinder folder.

Step 1 Description A description of the experience, with relevant details. Remember to maintain patient confidentiality. Don't make judgments yet or try to draw conclusions; simply describe the events and the key players. Set the scene! It might be useful to ask yourself the following questions • What happened? • When did it happen? • Where were you? • Who was involved? • What were you doing? • What role did you play? • What roles did others play? • What was the result?	**Step 4 Analysis** • What can you apply to this situation from your previous knowledge, studies or research? • What recent evidence is in the literature surrounding this situation, if any? • Which theories or bodies of knowledge are relevant to the situation – and in what ways? • What broader issues arise from this event? • What sense can you make of the situation? • What was really going on? • Were other people's experiences similar or different in important ways? • What is the impact of different perspectives eg. personal / patients / colleagues' perspectives?
Step 2 Feelings Don't move on to analyzing these yet, simply describe them. • How were you feeling at the beginning? • What were you thinking at the time? • How did the event make you feel? • What did the words or actions of others make you think? • How did this make you feel? • How did you feel about the final outcome? • What is the most important emotion or feeling you have about the incident? • Why is this the most important feeling?	**Step 5 Conclusion** • How could you have made the situation better? • How could others have made the situation better? • What could you have done differently? • What have you learned from this event?
Step 3 Evaluation • What was good about the event? • What was bad? • What was easy? • What was difficult? • What went well? • What did you do well? • What did others do well? • Did you expect a different outcome? If so, why? • What went wrong, or not as expected? Why? • How did you contribute?	**Step 6 Action Plan** • What do you think overall about this situation? • What conclusions can you draw? How do you justify these? • With hindsight, would you do something differently next time and why? • How can you use the lessons learned from this event in future? • Can you apply these learnings to other events? • What has this taught you about professional practice? about yourself? • How will you use this experience to further improve your practice in the future?

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Use this template to complete the Reflective Practice documentation. Use only the space provided. Information that is not visible is lost.

Step 1 Description I went to Oceans on January 30th and 31st. We assessed patients, observed group therapy, saw a mock code for a psychiatric emergency, and observed treatment team.	**Step 4 Analysis** The mood disorders and psychopharmacology lectures were helpful to understand more of what was going on with the patient and in treatment team when discussing medications. Therapeutic communication was relevant when interacting with the patients.
Step 2 Feelings . I felt nervous about doing an assessment. I was worried about interacting with the patients. I felt better after we did the assessments and saw the mock code and treatment team.	**Step 5 Conclusion** I learned about how Oceans works and how a psychiatric emergency would be handled. I learned about what the treatment team does and how they approach these weekly meetings.
Step 3 Evaluation It was interesting to see the mock code and treatment team because I have never seen it before. For the mock code, the staff worked well to get the patient safe and restrained. In treatment team, it was good to hear how they talked about the patients and connect what we learned to real practice.	**Step 6 Action Plan** Overall, it was a good learning experience to interact with psychiatric patients and see how a locked psych unit works. I enjoyed seeing when some of the patients who were being discharged were doing really good.

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