

Midterm Reflection

My name is Jazmine Salazar, and I am currently in the module 8 preceptorship in the Cardiac intensive care unit. After completing my first five shifts with my preceptor Jill I feel accomplished and motivated. Each day I continue to learn something new and build on my current knowledge every day. Our patients and their family members have been pleasant and continue to stay involved in their family members' care. We had a total of 6 different patients that we cared for during my first 5 shifts.

The first two patients that we had we had one of them had dementia and we had on oxygen. It was interesting to hear Jill's thought process and work this problem of having her on oxygen since she normally doesn't wear it at home. We found out that had and EBSI infection. My other was admitted to the unit because she had rapid ventricular response with a high heart rate, and they ended up putting her on Amiodarone drip. It was interesting to see her heart rate being maintained by this medication until she was able to get a procedure for a pacemaker.

The next two patients we had were very weak and required a lot of assistance. The third patient was extubated the day before we got her and was requiring oxygen. I like when Jill thinks out loud because it helps me understand the plan and direction, we are trying to head in. We were able to wean her off oxygen and make her comfortable enough to eat. The fourth patient we had was extremely weak and had many procedures the night before due to liver encephalopathy affecting his heart. We were able to pull fluid off and make him more comfortable to sit up in the chair to eat. Although he was ready to go home, we explained to the patient and his family member that this wasn't possible due to his weakness and abnormal lab values.

The next two patients we had were in critical condition and we were able to stabilize and even discharge one of them home. My fifth patient was on a cardiac device called swan-ganz

catheter that is inserted into the pulmonary valve through the heart. Since I have never heard about this device before or even seen the device it was fun to research more about the device and learn about it. This was the patient that we were able to discharge home due to the continued monitor of the device. The sixth patient we had was a patient me and my preceptor who extremely concerned about. She had a heart attack the day before and we noticed she was diaphoretic, requiring more oxygen 75 Liters to be exact, and her blood pressure was dropping. It was nice to hear Jill's thought process on the situation and see her critical thinking firsthand. She went above and beyond for her patient and made sure to give her and her family members the best care possible. I like how she structured our clinical days and continues working on the goals I have set for myself. She lets me perform as many skills as possible and continues to teach and restructure my thinking to critical care thinking. We work today and I am excited for the next five shifts to continue to grow as a person and a critical care nurse.