

Reflection

I have completed my final five clinical rotations. I have noticed an improvement on my final days on receiving and giving SBAR, patient assessments, pulling and giving medications, advocating for the patient's quality of care, and developing clinical competence with hands on skills with different procedures involving patient care. I have strengthened my nursing process to provided comprehensive, evidence-based nursing care from the skills and growth my preceptor has showed and guided me on.

On my final clinical day, one of my ICU patients had a hemorrhage stroke occur and left him being on a vent from developing respiratory failure with hypoxia. One of the main things I needed to keep an eye on was his blood pressure to monitor that it wouldn't increase intracranial pressure. The patient had frequent coughing spells that would raise his blood pressure through the shift. I learned from another nurse that patients that have this injury in the brain are very sensitive to being on the vent and can cause them to cough often moving their whole body. This information was very important to me because that helped me, and other nurses know that suctioning the patient often wouldn't help due to it not being caused by the secretions but by his brain injury condition. I had to be on top of reassessing his pain often and restless signs and provided what he needed such as PRN medications like Ativan, Dilaudid to help keep his blood pressure from raising and providing comfort when in pain. I learned to always have the monitor turned to where I can see it when turning the patient to bathe or clean him up. His oxygen started to drop quickly, and we had to take breaks to avoid decreasing the O2 stats. Clustering the patient's care was very important due to minimal movement would cause him to cough often increasing his blood pressure back up. I learned that I needed to be quite organized through my shift and anticipating what could happen when planning care between all patients I was caring

for. This final clinical rotation helped me notice how important it is to stay organized and have a plan and prioritize who to go see first and how to plan out my shift when caring for two ICU patients and one med surg patient.