

For my last five shifts I feel as if I have grown not only in my skills but on holistic care of the patients. When I first began, I felt very nervous as to I did not know what to anticipate, but slowly I grew starting to learn as to how I can get the groove of things. Like anything else in my life there was some good days and some bad days, but each new day I always tried to have a positive mindset.

I will say I learned a lot of skills, and with some skills I was able to do repeatedly to where I got the hang of things. I can say I can confidently hand antibiotics, and run tube feedings without a problem. I also learned some things that I never knew was a thing. For example, one of my patients had pulled out their PEG tube and as a replacement they placed a 16F foley and attached a lopez valve and it worked the exact same as a PEG. I was able to dress a lot of wounds in which I am thankful for. I will say being at LTACH was indeed a good learning experience in learning and doing new skills.

Even in the great days, there are the bad. Sometimes at clinical my preceptor would be visibly upset if I would ask too many questions. Also, just as a for your information she does like to leave the room whenever you are trying to give a med so you sometimes must wait a little before she returns to the room. Also, like anywhere else sometimes the staff seem annoyed to have students there. Although there were bad experiences with the people there I tried to continue with a positive attitude. On the other hand, I must speak about my last clinical day. It was a sad day for me because one patient that I had cared for prior ended up not doing to well on my last clinical day. A consult for palliative and hospice had to made. It was just sad to see how much the patient had deteriorated since the last I had saw him, and it was hard to see the family go through that choice.

Overall, I am still thankful for the opportunity, and I hope to grow more. I hope to one day be a caring and sympathetic nurse.