

Midterm clinical reflection Addy Perez 125591

Most of the time, my first day of clinical is usually filled with anxiety nervousness and all the things of meeting a new nurse and patients. I have not had the best experience with nurses I have been assigned to but being able to text my preceptor beforehand even just talking about his schedule, I felt a bit more comfortable to know he was actually expecting me.

Our assigned patient had a lot of things going on and was extremely sick to say the least. In all my bedside experience, it was the first time I had seen a patient with so many drains lines and most importantly on ECMO. I quickly realized that from the beginning we would be busy and with it being my first day I should have just been observing. Now, when it comes to patient care it is difficult for me to just stand back while others do everything, and I think my preceptor could tell. I took the initiative to jump in and ask what I could do and where I needed to be, so he allowed me to be hands on right away.

ICUs are busy at times and with this particular patient we had our work cut out for us. I do know that it is fast paced, and I half expected that, but I was not prepared to see as much as I did on the first day. I was not aware that chasing blood pressure was a thing and with what the patient had as far as meds it was definitely a learning experience to understand/see how meds can take care of hypertension when the med is used to treat something else. The decannulation process was something completely different from what I expected and watching it at bedside was truly amazing.