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Midterm Clinical Reflection
11-4-24

During my clinical experience, I have started to become a more competent nurse. My preceptor, Jill, is a strong role model for me, and we have begun to build a foundation of trust. On the first day of my clinicals, I mainly observed how she planned her day and treated her patients. On the next shift, I was delegated the tasks of charting for one of the patients while taking care of both of our assigned patients. Each day, she has been delegating more responsibilities to me. Jill's main goal for me is to help me adopt the mindset of truly being in the role of a nurse. I have been a CNA for over four years, and she has caught and stopped me from performing CNA tasks such as taking out trashes, trays, and giving baths. She told me that, although those tasks are important and included in nursing, my job is to focus on the safety, priority, and stability of the patient's condition first.

Over the past four shifts, I have cared for patients with new-onset AFIB whom we cardioverted through a TEE, a chronic pain patient with a pain pump, two patients undergoing withdrawal of care, a hemiplegic midbrain stroke patient, and a paraplegic with a SBO. I have also developed relationships with the other nurses on the unit. They have been involved in my experience by inviting me to perform skills with their patients as well. They have also been very educational, explaining how and why we do certain things based on evidence-based practice. The nurses have complimented my skills and made me feel like part of the team.

My personal goals for the next clinical shifts are to perfect my assessment techniques, understand more about medications, and communicate more comfortably with my patients. I also want to reach a point where I don't have to depend on my nurse to assist me in certain situations. I want to feel confident in my ability to take care of patients on my own one day. Overall, this experience has made me feel stronger and more capable in my nursing abilities.