

End term reflection

November 18th

Today we had 3 ICU patients. We took a report from outgoing RN at 7am and resumed the care. With the guidance of my preceptor, we checked all the laboratory results and medication and discussed all the laboratory results that did not meet the parameters, reasons to give or to hold medication for patient safety. One thing among several things I have learned during this period is that before giving any meds whether scheduled or PRN I must check all the labs that can be affected by that medicine in addition to the rules of medicine for patient safety and therapeutic outcome.

When we were caring for one of our patients who had respiratory failure secondary to successful resuscitation from myocardial infarction, who was in a vent and trach, the patient trach came out. I was nervous because the oxygen saturation started dropping. We pulled the emergency alarm, and the RT team came immediately. In the process of calling for help, my preceptor grabbed BVM and started providing ventilation to the patient. RT used an obturator temporarily as they were getting another set of tracheostomies which was on the bedside ready. The patient was stabilized and all the vitals improved immediately. I adored the benefit of collaboration and teamwork in the health system, and I got so encouraged as an RN knowing that nursing is not an individual task but a collaboration and teamwork for patient outstanding outcome. I also learned that safety is always essential, having a BVM bag, arbitrator, scissors and an extra tracheostomy set at bed side for a patient with tracheostomy saved a life.

We continued with the care, I checked the patient residue before preparing and administering medication and bolus feeding through the peg tube, made sure our patient was comfortable and went to care for the other patients.

I discontinued a foley and started a new one on one of our patients. It was so exciting to hear and learn the word breaking a seal during foley insertion. I collected samples after a successful foley catheter insertion for urinalysis. We gave out report to the oncoming nurse at 6:50 pm