

Julie Boren / Outpatient Surgery Reflection Questions

1. I saw a 15 year old male with Gilbert's Syndrome for a liver biopsy, a 17 month old male for circumcision and meatoplasty, a 2 year old male with Lissencephaly admitted for a feeding tube and MRI, and a 17 year old male for a wrist fracture repair.
2. I anticipated that most of out patients would be over 5 or 6 years old and was surprised to see so many toddlers undergoing procedures.
3. Teenagers were provided with video games as distractions while younger children were breastfed post-op, offered toys, and given wagon rides and their favorite tv shows.
4. I assisted with IV insertion and removal by helping to keep young patients still.
5. Common post-op instructions included keeping sutures dry and not submerging them in water, preventing strain on the sutures, reporting bleeding and infection, and keeping toddlers from jumping off of furniture, playing rough, or using ride-on toys following procedures in the perineal area.
6. Patients were breastfed or offered snacks or comfort items following procedures.
7. We monitored patients for difficulty breathing, bleeding, nausea and vomiting, confusion, and did our best to prevent falls.
8. Post-op questions are confirmed with the patient's caregiver/parent, risks are discussed, the procedure is described with the parent including the amount of time it may take, after care is discussed, and the parent signs consent.
9. Patients were allowed to breastfeed 4 hours before procedures instead of the 6 hours used for formula due to breastmilk being digested faster.
10. Child life played a great role in keeping children distracted before procedures with video games, toys, tv shows, and other aids.