

Pediatric ED Reflection Questions

1. What types of patients (diagnoses) did you see in the PED?

Aperts syndrome, Strep, gastroschisis

2. The majority of the patients who came into the PED were from which age group? Was this what you expected?

There were patients from all ages but mainly school aged children. This is what I expected due to the illnesses that are circulating.

3. Was your overall experience different than what you expected? Please give examples.

I did not think I would like the PED, but I loved it. I loved all the different cases I got to see. There is something different about every patient. It was a little bit less eventful than I expected though. I was expecting a very chaotic environment, but it was very calm and relaxed.

4. How did growth and development come into play when caring for patients (both in triage and in treatment rooms)?

Different assessments were performed on different age groups. An infant is heavily assessed because they cannot express their concerns, whereas a school aged child told the nurse what was wrong during triage. In the treatment rooms, the parents had to help console the infants and toddlers while a distraction such as the tv was used for the older kids.

5. What types of procedures did you observe or assist with?

I observed a nurse suctioning oral secretions and a nurse inserting an IV.

6. What community acquired diseases are trending currently?

Flu, pneumonia, strep, RSV

7. What community mental health trends are being seen in the pediatric population?

Anxiety and Depression

8. How does the staff debrief after a traumatic event? Why is debriefing important?

I did not observe a traumatic event during my time in the PED, but I believe debriefing is very important after traumatic events to communicate and find ways to cope and destress.

9. What is the process for triaging patients in the PED?

The nurse obtains basic information about the patient and the situation and records vital signs during triage. The patients are called back based on priority and graded 1-5 based on interventions needed.

10. What role does the Child Life Specialist play in the PED?

Child Life Specialists were not in the PED while I was there. Child Life Specialist can distract the kids while nurses are performing procedures and come in before to explain what happens during the procedures.