

Pediatric ED Reflection Questions

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

A 6 year old came in with Chest pain and SVT, a 13 month old with suspected influenza and a 4 month old with troubled breathing.

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

I saw a range of ages from a 6 year old, 13 month old and a 4 month old.

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

I was expecting to have more patients, but the ED was not as overwhelming as what I thought it was going to be. There would be some down time and then we would get busy with a more intensive case for example, the child with SVT.

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

In the ED, the infant was crying and the mother knew that she needed to feed her and the baby trusted that the mother would meet his needs. The mother also held the Infant when we were getting vital sings on him to distract and keep him calm. In triage, the child wanted to be in her mothers' lap because she felt safe and comfortable with her mom.

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

I observed the nurses push Adenosine three different times to help get the child with SVT back to normal cardiac rhythm. I also observed cardioversion done on the child to help get his heartbeat back to normal.

6. What community acquired diseases are trending currently?

Influenza, RSV, measles, strep throat

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

Anxiety and depression are increasing more in the pediatric population.

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

They gather together and talk about the incident and also mention ways that could have made the situation better. They also give each other emotional support. This is important because it allows for the team to have a better outcome and be more prepared for when they have another serious situation.

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

There is a level of 1-5, 1 being the most severe and needs to be seen Immediately. These patients usually have cardiac issues. 2 is the next high priority because they are usually the Psychiatric patients and oncology children. 3 and 4 are the next priority and these are ranked by the number of resources that is expected for these patients, such as X-rays and other tests. 5 is the children who come in just to get checked out.

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

The Child life specialist helps the children to feel more comfortable and less anxious. They are also very helpful in distracting the child during certain procedures that will cause the child to be very anxious.