Pediatric ED Reflection Questions

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

   In the PED I seen dehydration and a couple of RSV positive patients.

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

   The majority of the patients that came into the PED were from ages 3-5 years old. This was expected from me, but I thought I would see a whole lot more infants.

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

   Yes it was a lot different than I expected. I expected it to be busier and see more traumatic events.

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

   Knowing how to speak to the patients for example saying "I'm going to check your heart" instead of saying "I'm going to take your vitals" the older the patient was the better because they were able to say what was going on with them and if they were hurting.

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

   The only thing I observed was the nurse putting in an IV on a 21-month-old patient.

6. What community acquired diseases are trending currently?

   The PED is still seeing a bunch of FLU cases and RSV. Their suicidal ideation cases are also increasing.

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

   Suicidal ideation is seen in the PED a lot, the nurses said. Patients are having thoughts and plans on harming/killing themselves.

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

   We didn't see a big traumatic event but I did see a patient in respiratory distress go in. After respiratory went in and treated the patient the doctor asked if anyone had any suggestions to help the patient decrease their work of breathing. Debriefing is a moment for caregivers to throw in any ideas or suggestions that might have been missed in the beginning.

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

   The process for triaging patients is the patient checks in to the ED. The triage nurse then calls the patient back to the triage rooms where they get the initial vitals and a weight and height. After assessing the patient and depending on their vitals they will either go back to the waiting room or go back to an exam room where the doctor will assess the patient.

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

    The child life specialist helps by keeping the patient as calm as possible during a procedure. For example, we started an IV on a patient and the child life specialist went with play dough to