

**Midterm Clinical Reflection - Lanie Abers**

I used the template from Module 7 but I added my patient reflection in the first box.

<p>What feelings did you experience in clinical? Why?</p> <p>Feelings about one particular patient:</p>	<p>I have had a great clinical experience so far. I was nervous before going into clinical practice because dealing with small and fragile patients is a little nerve wracking when I haven't had much experience. However, throughout these five shifts, I have learned to love the NICU and its patients and I am very thankful that I was placed on this unit for my preceptorship. I had one patient that had been in the hospital for several weeks. This patient was in very critical condition after being born with a bowel perforation and then beginning to show signs of sepsis. I was very nervous to have this patient because we had at least 8 iv meds going at one time. The patient had an arterial line, a picc line and a peripheral iv and he was on high frequency oscillator vent. I knew that I had to be very careful while handling this patient and that I needed to make sure my clave changes were sterile and that I double checked all med calculations with another nurse. I was worried that I would not be confident in myself as we took care of this patient but with the help of my fantastic preceptor, I learned how to care for a patient with this high of acuity and how to be more confident in my care techniques. I felt very good at the end of the shift because the patient was improving compared to the day before and we were even able to complete a bath on the patient so he looked nice and clean for his family and we were doing our part in preventing further infection. Overall, I learned a lot from this tiny patient and I am excited to keep furthering my education and experience.</p>
<p>What did you already know and do well as you provided patient care?</p>	<p>I knew the basics/ the education before attending these clinicals but I really feel like I have improved greatly on my skills in the NICU. I have learned to feel more comfortable feeding and handling the babies as well as taking vitals signs, giving the patients medications and learning how to document everything/manage my time throughout the shift.</p>

<p>What areas do you need to develop or improve?</p>	<p>Although I have learned and improved a lot, I always think there is room for development. I am going to continue to develop my skills of OG/NG tubes, medications, how to respond during an urgent situation or new admission and I will work on my time management with multiple patients who have care times at the same time.</p>
<p>What did you learn?</p>	<p>I have learned a lot during this clinical experience. I have learned how to draw blood cultures, do sterile clave changes, work with an arterial line on an infant, how to hang syringes on the iv pumps and how to check meds/ do a dual sign off. I have seen an admission and a discharge process and how to document/ give reports on multiple patients, to the physicians and nurses.</p>
<p>How will you apply what was learned to improve your patient care?</p>	<p>I will always be able to use this information to improve my patient care. I hope to work at the Children's Hospital after graduating and no matter what unit I go to, I will always encounter infant patients and their families. So, this clinical preceptorship has been very beneficial to my learning and has allowed me to gain experience in a field that I was not very confident in.</p>