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### Midterm Reflection

When I was assigned to the pediatric ED, I was very nervous and intimidated, as pediatrics was material that I had a hard time with – it is a completely different realm! However, I came in with an open-mind and eager to learn new skills from my preceptor that I might not have acquired through my journey in IM5. In pediatrics it comes with challenges that you might not see in the adult community, such as dealing with parents, doing play learning, and communicating with children to explain certain procedures,

One of the toughest challenges that occur in the pediatric floor would be making calls to CPS due to the suspicion of child neglect, abuse, or injury. It is very difficult for me to comprehend how an adult can be so cruel to a child, and it makes situations like the one I experienced in the Pedi ED difficult. I had a 2 y.o M patient that was brought in due for possible consumption of approximately 450 mg of THC gummies while he was under the care of a babysitter. They patient was very lethargic and per mom acting very sluggish, which is unlike his normal behavior as he's normally a very active kid. The toughest challenge was parents, specifically dad, did not want to give the babysitter's name to us to report to CPS. As I understand they may not want to get this person in trouble, the severity of what the child consumed is up for questioning, especially if this babysitter has other kids that are under their watch. The safety of the child, and possibly the safety of other kids is more important than the likely hood of this individual "getting in trouble". It can be challenging to set opinions aside in situations like this, and not add your own judgment. However, as a nurse, we set those feelings aside because the goal is to keep the child safe and offer the best of care.

In the pediatric floor CPS forms part of their resources and its used often and learning how to compartmentalize your feelings and emotions is crucial to provide the best non-objective care. As a nurse it's important to focus on your mental health and understand that some of the cases that are seen every day can be difficult, and to giving yourself some grace.