

## Pediatric ED Reflection Questions

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

Ear infections, GI/Stool bleed, suspected fracture to arm (no fracture after x-ray), attempted suicide

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

The majority were school age children -I wasn't sure exactly what to expect but from the experiences the day before, I would have assumed younger children like infants and toddlers

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

Yes, it was different than what I would have expected. The nurses act more like a team and take patients as they come. One nurse will take an initial assessment and place the patient in an available room. Another nurse will provide and monitor the patient once in the room. For example, one patient came in for a suspected arm fracture. The triage nurse completed the initial assessment and gathered baseline vital signs. Then a nurse from the nurses' station or doctor would assess and provide further care. Other healthcare members, a radiologist for this case, were brought in came to complete an x-ray.

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

Patients had different fears depending on their age. Patients needed different explanations for procedures depending on their developmental level.

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

I observed a respiratory treatment and x-ray. I helped give an antibiotic and helped with an IM injection. I discontinued an IV.

6. What community acquired diseases are trending currently?

Currently, measles and RSV are trending currently.

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

Currently, there was a patient with attempted suicide that came into the clinic.

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

The nurse explained that they will debrief from a traumatic event in a conference with all the nursing staff and a Chaplin and hospital therapist. They usually bring food or snacks and can discuss what occurred. These meetings usually occur in the afternoon of a traumatic event that happened early in the morning or the next day.

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

Triage nurses gather a baseline for patients including gathering a history, current issue, assessment of severity of the case, a general assessment, and vital signs. The nurse will then bring the patient to an available room.

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

In the ER, the Child Life Specialist helps distract children with procedures, explain procedures at a developmentally appropriate age, helps the family cope with the initial emotional experience of the trauma