

GI Lab Reflection Questions

1. What types of patients (diagnoses/ procedures) did you see in the GI lab?

-I got to see two endoscopies. One to look for an allergy issue and the other to look for causes of severe vomiting.

2. What prep is required for patients based on scheduled procedure?

-The doctor and anesthesiologist have to come by and talk with the patient and family. The nurses have to obtain consent and also prep the patient by placing an IV and handing a bag of LR.

3. How did growth and development come into play when caring for patients?

-Both patients were teenagers so they had a deeper level of understanding of what to expect. I also got to see them use a buzzy bee to place the IV's.

4. What is the process for obtaining consents for the procedure?

-They must explain the procedure to the pt and answer any questions or concerns that the pt or family has. They must also assess the patients and family's understanding regarding the procedure.

5. What are some common post-procedure instructions given to the patient/caregivers?

-A small amount of blood spit up is normal. The pt may be sleepy for a while due to the anesthesia. Also, they suggest the child stay home from school for the rest of the day.

6. Give examples of non-pharmacological comfort nursing interventions you saw.

-I saw the buzzy bee used and they also gave popsicles post op to help soothe the throat discomfort.

7. What complications (red flags) from sedation did you watch for and how did you monitor?

-One of the patients had some airway issues when trying to come out of sedation. The pt was trying to vomit, holding his breathe and then gasping for air. We held the pt's head tilted back and did a jaw thrust maneuver to help keep the airway open. We monitored sedation level and all vital signs.

8. What is the flow of the patient throughout the department? Give examples of how staff worked as a team?

-The patient comes in for pre op and then is taken to the procedure room and placed back on the unit for post op. All the staff members worked so well together. One of the nurses was new so I got to see all the other staff members help her out. They also helped one another with post op care and all of the cleaning on the unit after all patients were discharged.

9. How does the NPO status change based on age or if infant takes breast milk vs formula?

-Older kids are NPO starting at midnight, children on formula can have up to 6 hours prior to procedure and kids on breast milk can have it up to 4 hours prior.

10. What role does the Child Life Specialist play in the GI lab? If not observed, how could they be part of your interdisciplinary team?

The child life specialist came by and spoke with each patient regarding their understanding of the procedures and if they had any concerns.