

## Clinical Reflection: Final - 05/01/2025

During this clinical experience, I have experienced a lot of feelings. I have been nervous, like when we were receiving a new admit that was only 23 weeks old. I have felt excited and happy when a patient graduated out of the NICU and was able to go home with their families. And I have been sad, like when the patient passed away after the interdisciplinary team tried their hardest and performed all of the life saving measures they could. During this preceptorship, I have learned a lot about the skills and characteristics needed to thrive in the neonatal intensive care unit. I realized it takes a special person with a lot of compassion, critical thinking skills and teamwork to be a good member of the unit. I have learned so much while completing my preceptorship on this unit. Especially when I helped to admit a 29 week old patient who had a traumatic delivery. The baby had gotten stuck while being delivered and was born with some abrasions and bruises. I was nervous while taking care of the patient because I knew we had to stabilize them and their MAP was fluctuating a lot. We got them started on dopamine to try to balance it out and titrated it as needed. We got the patient stabilized and they were tolerating everything very well. However, when I had a shift the next week, the patient had required even more IV drips and had to be intubated. We ended up completing the transfer to send the baby to receive more specialized care at Cooks and I got to see how the flight team picked the patient up and took over care. It was a good experience and it taught me a lot about the admit, continuing care and the discharge process. Overall, I have been very grateful for this experience and I hope to continue learning and working on the NICU.