

## Pediatric ED Reflection Questions

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

I saw mental health/ suicide risk, constipation, possible viruses/ infections, and patients experiencing drainage issues.

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

Majority of the patients were school age children and adolescents which I expected this time of year, considering kids are just going back to school.

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

It was different than what I expected. I was expecting a very fast paced, busy environment that involved patients with different traumas and injuries, but in the morning it was not very busy. I was also able to see patients with mental health problems which I was not expecting.

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

Growth and development played a very big part in caring for patients in the sense that I had to remind myself when going into the rooms the age and development of each child and how to best approach them to make them feel comfortable in a place that they might be scared of.

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

I was able to observe and help with a blood draw and an enema administration.

6. What community acquired diseases are trending currently?

Respiratory viruses, like influenza (seasonal flu), COVID-19, and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) are trending around this time.

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

An increase in anxiety and depression is being seen in the pediatric/ adolescent population, as well as increased mental health visits due to stress and school starting, social media and screen time linked to anxiety and depression.

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

Although I was not able to witness this, I would assume that the staff would meet in a private room where they would talk about what happened during the traumatic event, what went well during this, and what could have been done to improve the situation. I also think that this would be a time for the staff to share how they felt after this. This is important to improve on future traumatic events and for the staff to support one another as this can be an emotional and tolling time.

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

The nurse at the front desk takes the vitals of the patient, a quick look, patient history, determines what brought the patient in and takes them to a room while they wait for the doctor and nurse.

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

I was not able to see a child life specialist while I was in the PED, but I would assume that they help in patient and family education of diagnoses as well as procedures, aid in preparing for procedures, playing with the child, emotional support for the family and patient, as well as providing resources and overall helping reduce stress during scary times.