

Jasmine Abalos

Pediatric ED Reflection Questions

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

-Complaints of pain (leg pain post-surgery, foot pain), Insect bite, Syncope, Vision Changes

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

-School age, which is what I expected, since I assumed most accidents or complaints would be from this group.

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

-It was pretty slow and quiet, which is what I expected since it was a morning shift, but I do wish I could've stayed more busy. There were only about 5 patients who came in during my clinical, so all we could do was wait until something happened. I didn't really know the difference between triage and the emergency rooms, so it was good to find out that the initial assessment was mainly done in triage, and med admin and the physicians assessment was done once the patient had a room in the ED.

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

-Ensuring that the patient stays calm during procedures and assessments was really important when dealing with children. Distraction techniques were important with these patients since most of them were scared and crying due to pain and fear. Even just giving medication was complicated since the patients refused or fought back, so distraction was really important in this age group.

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

-I helped administer medications and observe a splint being placed.

6. What community acquired diseases are trending currently?

-Influenza and COVID (viral infections)

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

-Anxiety and depression, one of the kids being discharged during my clinical had suicidal tendencies so was under psychiatric watch

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

-After a traumatic event, collaborating and sharing information with the team is very important. Going over what happened during the event and any issues or thoughts that need to be expressed helps ensure proper communication. Debriefing is important to learn and better prepare for future events.

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

-When patients first come into the ER, they're assessed for their need for care/whether its more emergent or not. The nurse will get the patients information, vital signs, and perform a focused assessment based on their complaints/reasoning for coming in. After this initial assessment, its determined whether the patient will get admitted to a room or if they're in need of further assessment by the physician.

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

-Child life specialists help provide support and comfort to children during medical care or procedures. Since the ER can be stressful and scary to children, these specialists help explain procedures, distract, and cope/play during the childs stay at the hospital.