

Midterm Reflection

- What feelings have you experienced in clinical so far? Why?

Throughout my first three shifts, I have felt all the emotions. I was super nervous on shift one and two, but after completing my third, I felt way more confident in my abilities. My preceptor and the other staff have all been super welcoming and always take opportunities to teach me. I have been able to start charting and I have become a lot more familiar with the process in the ED.

- What did you already know and do well as you provided patient care?

I already knew I wanted to work with kids, and I feel very comfortable with therapeutic communication. Getting pediatric patients to trust you is very important when trying to provide care. I feel like I was able to connect with patients through play and therapeutic communication, making providing care easier.

- What areas do you need to develop or improve?

I need to be more confident with starting IVs. I started 2 on my third shift and I was able to get both first try. I want to become more confident so I know I need to practice this skill more, I let the staff know I would start their IVs for them whenever I'm here if they'd like me to. I also need to get used to having a holder for pediatrics as most kids dislike needles and can move while trying to start an IV.

- What have you learned so far?

I have learned a lot so far. I have had the opportunity to witness both walk-in and EMS patients arriving and have gotten to see the different processes for both. I have gotten to start IVs and catheters, take many vital signs, and work on charting. I have also been able to do discharge teaching to patients/families and completed discharge charting to be released home or admitted to a floor.

- How will you apply what you have learned to improve your patient care?

I would love to work in the ED when I graduate, so this whole experience would greatly benefit and improve my patient care. I will do charting/teaching, assessments, and IV/catheter starts my entire career so I know becoming familiar with these will help me provide effective and efficient patient care.