

### Midterm Reflection

Overall, my clinical experience has been enjoyable. Shift one was getting to know my preceptor and learning how the unit worked. Shift two, I took my own patient. I was excited to finally step fully into the nurse's role with patient care and documentation. Shift three, I was not with my preceptor, so I got to practice what I had learned the shift before without most of the reminders. Shift four, I took two patients for the first time. It was definitely an eye-opener on why time management is so important.

I need to fine-tune my assessments, especially the focused neuro assessment. I need to be able to remember what questions to ask. If I am giving an IV push medication, I can also be assessing the patient's neurological status. This would also improve my time management skills.

I learned what you do when you think your patient is having a stroke. You have to do a NIH assessment to see the change. You always check the blood sugar to make sure it is not caused by low blood sugar. Then you go to CT to get images done with contrast. If it is their first stroke, they can give a medication to break up the clot. If it is not their first stroke and they are still showing symptoms, they go in and remove the clot. If they are not showing symptoms anymore, they need to go to ICU to get an ART line so we can increase their BP to get blood flow back to the brain.

With how fast my patient's condition changed, it shows the importance of doing your Q4 neuro checks and hourly roundings. Just laying your eyes on your patients can tell you a lot about their condition.