

Lakeview School of Nursing
N405 Leadership and Management
Weekly Clinical Journal

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Date: 09/03/2020

Week 2

Journal of Observations: Today, I started my CCU rotation, which I will be in for the remainder of the semester. The morning started with a COVID positive patient going into asystole after being flipped from prone to a supine position. I was able to stand outside the door and observe the formidable working team of nurses save a man's life. After sorting through the logistics of getting him airlifted, the patient flew to Carle. At the end of the day, I was able to observe intubation on an older adult client who had been given too much pain medicine and needed rapid resuscitation. It was so amazing to see the doctors and nurses work together in perfect harmony. Overall, it was a very enriching first day of clinical.

What Leadership and Management skills were observed: I saw dozens of nurses and doctors and respiratory therapists become a well-oiled machine to keep someone alive. The nurse I was shadowing was a clear leader and was able to keep the situation calm and organized. During the intubation, she went ahead and prepped everything beforehand to relieve the stress of the problem. She delegated tasks to other nurses and a care partner to make sure everything went smoothly. It was amazing to see everyone stop and listen to her as she began talking. She was a clear leader on that floor.

Week 3 Date: 09/10/2020

Journal of Observations: Today at clinical, I was back in the CCU at Sarah Bush Lincoln. During clinical, I was able to help a patient on Lasix use the bathroom multiple times, administer Insulin, pass PO medications, and do glucose checks. I observed my nurse access an art line and talk to the patient's family about the patient's options. It was a slower day than last week, but I still feel like I could practice my skills and learn new information.

What Leadership and Management skills were observed: I saw my nurse work with the charge nurse to care for our patients today. The charge nurse was quick to help educate my nurse on a topic she needed help with. They collaborated to find solutions to problems, and it helped me enhance my critical thinking skills.

Week 4 Date 09/17/2020 (Missed Clinical)

Journal of Observations: Today, I will write about my first day on 2 South at Sarah Bush Lincoln during my second semester of nursing school. I was paired with a nurse, and the first thing she did was tell me that she was going to help make the most of my clinical time. She helped me prime tubing for the first time, administer IV medications, check blood glucose, and navigate the charts. I was able to take all those skills and build on them throughout the semester.

What Leadership and Management skills were observed: I watched my nurse collaborate with case managers and doctors while maintaining six patients. She worked closely with the charge nurse to ensure the best care for the patient. It taught me how to organize my time when I am on the floor and prioritize care for each client.

Week 5 Date 09/24/2020

Journal of Observations: Today was another slow day in the CCU, but I feel like I learned a lot. The nurse I was paired with today mostly let me observe while she managed the patients, and I was able to zero in on the nurse's skills and take note. She was too kind and took her time while prioritizing care for her clients. Another nurse took me under her wing and let me pass medications while quizzing me on my pharmacology knowledge.

What Leadership and Management skills were observed: I was able to watch nurses working together to collaborate care for clients with complicated diseases, delegate to the CCU tech for tasks within his scope of practice, and work as a team to turn a patient to the prone position.

Week 6 Date 10/01/2020

Journal of Observations: Today in clinical, I was able to collect blood from an arterial line, learn the functions of a pressure bag, and identify all the components involved with an arterial line. My nurse knew that today would be slower, so she prepared little quizzes for me to take throughout the day. The low census on the unit is worrisome because I want to work on my skills before I graduate, but I do feel like spending time with nurses and learning how to apply these skills will really help me in the future.

What Leadership and Management skills were observed: The nurse I followed was the charge nurse for the day, and time and time again she proves to be an amazing leader. She handles caseloads with ease and has no issue delegating the appropriate tasks to the UAP. While managing all the tasks entrusted to a charge nurse, she handles her workload well and has taught me a lot about prioritizing tasks and how to group things together by location.

Week 7 Date 10/08/2020

Journal of Observations: Today I was back in the CCU for another day of adventure.

Immediately upon arrival I was paired with the charge nurse and thrown into report. I listened intently as my nurse wrote down and questioned the information being given to her. I began to ask questions during hand off and was later told that I should wait until after report to ask questions so that was a lesson learned. My nurse only had one patient and she was in critical condition but was stable. I took direction and collected blood from a central line, primed and started a magnesium IV, and was able to change a dressing on a stage 4 pressure ulcer. Overall, I felt like I was able to observe and learn a lot today.

What Leadership and Management skills were observed: My nurse was the charge today and she really showed me how the behind the scenes nursing world works. She explained that although she only has one patient who is stable, there are a million loose ends that still needed to be tied up around the unit. My nurse delegated tasks to the CNA and I while she took phone calls and situated two patients being transferred via helicopter. She let me start two IV drips without any assistance and I am proud to say I did it all right! Although she was very busy, she still made time to teach me and help me advance my skills.

Week 8 10/12/2020

Journal of Observations: Tuesday was my first Adult Health 3 clinical. I was placed in the CCU, so I immediately felt comfortable and went to find a nurse. I was paired with a nurse who is also a teacher at Lakeview, which worked to my advantage because she let me do everything. She delegated tasks to me and the AP when she was talking to doctors or taking phone calls. She was delightful and made the patient feel more at ease. She was confident in my skills, which, in turn, made me feel more confident. My patient had a pain rating of 8/10 throughout the shift. He was using a PCA pump with morphine, which I had never seen before. My nurse took it upon herself to teach me everything about the pump and how it worked. Overall, it was a good experience.

What Leadership and Management skills were observed: I observed my nurse being a leader when she delegated tasks to me and the AP, taught me about PCA pumps and using therapeutic touch and communication to make the client more comfortable.

Week 9 Date

Journal of Observations: Today for leadership clinical I was able to rotate out to the ED for the first time ever! I had really high expectations and I was pleasantly surprised to find out that I have no desire to work in an ED ever again. The fast paced, unpredictable environment proved to be very anxiety inducing for me. However, I did notice that there is not a clear leader in the ER. Although there may be a charge nurse, the emergency room is separated by pods. Each pod has a few nurses and they pretty much take control of their own ship. My nurse was quiet and more to herself than the nurse she was partnered with. The only leadership skills I observed with my nurse was her delegating tasks to the UAP, and completing every client's immediate need. She was very attentive and really zoned into her work, which helped me focus more on the tasks at hand.

What Leadership and Management skills were observed: My nurse was more to herself, but that did not stop her from taking the lead and handling the chaos of the ED. She was able to delegate tasks, take the lead in assessing and tending to patients, and tying up any loose ends. She was a good leader despite her being more introverted.

Week 10 Date _____

Journal of Observations _____

What Leadership and Management skills were observed?
