

N431 Adult Health II
Clinical Reflection Form

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Clinical Rotation Site: Washbash Valley Surgery Center

1. Briefly write about today's experience(s)

Today during my clinical experience at the Washbash Valley Surgery Center, I was able to see different procedures and witness the process of surgery. The first surgery I saw was left palmar surgery. I arrived towards the end of this surgery, so I could not see it all the way through; however, the surgeon was kind enough to explain what he was doing to me. He explained that this patient at a condition that mainly affected Caucasian males. It results in the finger being contracted; he explains that this is a genetic disorder that worsens with age. The second surgeon I saw, I was able to see this one all the way through. From the time the patient was admitted for surgery to the time she was put under to when she awoke, I witnessed the entire time. It was fascinating watching the whole process. This particular patient had a right caporal tunnel decompression surgery. She also had a cyst removal of her right middle finger.

2. What is one thing you learned?

One thing I learned today while at the Washbash Valley Surgery Center was that cyst is common. Before this, I did not know how common it is to get cysts from doing everyday tasks. One of the nurses mentioned that she got a cyst from the pressure she was putting on her hand while consistently pressing a piece of equipment down. In her case, she said she did not get the cyst removed and resolved on its own. I also learned that not every cyst requires removal unless it causes pain and discomfort.

3. What is one thing you would do differently?

One thing I would do differently during this clinical experience is maybe asking more questions about the different surgeries. The surgeon and nurses were amazing and kind in experiencing everything. The surgeon even allowed me to come close and watch what he was doing while explaining what he was doing and why he was doing it. He also went into detail about the muscle and nerves he was working on. By asking more questions, it would have allowed me to gain more information. Nonetheless, the staff was very informative.

4. What is your major “take home” from today’s clinical experience(s)?

My significant take home from today’s clinical experience is that taking time outs before and after surgery is very informative. During this time, it allows everyone in the room to accurately identify the patient, the surgical site, and the planned procedure that is going to occur. This allows for clear communication to happen and for errors to identify if made. It also helps ensure patient safety, which is critical during a surgical procedure.

5. Is there anything else you would like to mention?

As mentioned above, the staff were so kind and welcoming. Everyone treated me so nicely. The surgeon also was very informative and thoughtful. They were sure to include me in the process by introducing me to both the family and patient and explaining what and why they were doing each thing. It was indeed a positive learning experience and one I was glad I could be a part of.