

N431 Adult Health II

Clinical Reflection Form

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Clinical Rotation Site: Carle Foundation Hospital

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

My overall today's experience at clinical was interesting and educative. I was assigned to do my clinical at CCU department where I ended up taking care of two patients. I had the opportunity to perform a physical assessment on both clients. Unfortunately, both clients are unresponsive. The first patient has been in coma 10 days ago; she cannot make a move and does not follow any commands. She was diagnosed with encephalopathy, elevated ammonia, extended abdomen. She is intubated. The second patient is in coma since Monday. He was readmitted after being discharged from a cranial surgery with the removal of his left skull. The patient developed an infection of the brain. The patient is unresponsive, cannot follow any commands, but is able to move both upper and lower extremities. Patient was scheduled for CT scan and I had the opportunity to go with the patient to the diagnosing room. I also had to administer medications and hang feeding pumps for both patients.

2. What is one thing you learned?

During my today's clinical I did not learn anything new. However, I did observe the preparation of the electroencephalogram (EEG), which is a test that detects electrical activities in the brain, using small, metal discs (electrodes) attached to the scalp. My patient's brain is being monitored through the electroencephalogram.

3. What is one thing you would do differently?

The main thing I need to work on is about safety. I have to always remember to scoop the needle when trying to recap it and also, I have to retract the needle right the way after use before putting it on the worktable. This will prevent any needle injury to myself or to a patient.

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

My major take home from my today’s clinical experience would be foley catheter care, intramuscular and subcutaneous injections. I also gained knowledge about the EEG after assisting the patient who was being hooked up for brain monitoring. Hopefully, I will have some more great experiences by the end of my clinical rotation.

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

At this point I would like to mention that my clinical rotation has contributed so far to my learning experience. The majority of nurses are very friendly to student nurses; they are helpful and ready to share their knowledge and experience as nurses. They have allowed me to take actions under their close supervision to practice what I have learned so far.