

N431 Adult Health II

Clinical Reflection Form

Name: Cindy Ho

Date: September 14, 2022

Clinical Rotation Site: Carle Hospital ED

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

My clinical rotation was to shadow a nurse in the emergency department. I observed the RN care for a variety of patients with different levels of acuity. There were patients with complaints of abdominal pain, a distressed mom of a 28-day-old baby, a patient that transferred via AirLife from Paris Hospital for respiratory distress, a trauma patient who fell off a ladder, and a patient requiring a psychiatric evaluation. I enjoyed observing the different types of assessments carried out by the nurse.

2. What is one thing you learned?

I learned the procedure for wasting narcotics which required a second nurse to sign off on the Pyxis MedStation. I attempted my first IV of the semester and understood what it meant when nurses refer to patients as "hard sticks." I felt what it was like to hit a valve and I also experienced inserting a catheter in a crooked vein. After two failed sticks, the RN moved further down the arm, and I learned it is sometimes necessary to use a smaller gauge needle instead. The RN started with a 20G and dropped to a 22G needle.

3. What is one thing you would do differently?

When inserting a catheter, I would follow the vein a little further to check for crooked veins. I would also remember to allow the patient to do as much as they can independently.

4. What is your major "take home" from today's clinical experience(s)?

My primary "take home" from my clinical experience was the variety of cases RNs can receive in the ED. And the need to be prepared at all times.

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

No