

Noticing

Why did you choose this additional assessment? What did you notice during your additional assessment of the client? Were there any assessments that were abnormal or that stood out to you?

I chose the suicide risk screening tool because my patient had thoughts of killing themselves. When I was asking the questions I noticed that the patient was very open about it and did not seem to think it was a big deal. The abnormal finding was that my patient put that he wish he was dead in the past week.

Interpreting

If something stood out to you or it was abnormal, explain it's potential cause or patterns that you noticed. Describe any similar situations you have experienced /as well as the similarities or differences between the experiences. If your interpretation of the situation links to pathophysiology at all if so briefly explain.

One thing that stood out in this tool was that the patient said in the past week that they wished they were dead. Since this kid was not very well behaved in the group I think this could be because his parents neglect him and don't give him enough attention. I have never really had those kind of thoughts before so I really can't say that I have had a similar experience.

Responding

What additional assessment information do you need based upon your interpretation? What can you do as a nursing student? What did you do? What therapeutic communication techniques did you utilize?

One thing that would be useful to know would be how the patient's home life is and what caused him to have these thoughts. One thing I can do is ask the patient questions. I asked him some questions but he was not as open about sharing that information with me. I used open ended questions and active listening.

Reflecting

What is something that you learned? What is something that you might do differently in the future? What is something that you did well? What additional knowledge or skills do you need to help you with future situations like this. Describe any changes in your values or feelings based on this interaction.

One thing I learned is that mental illness is not always seen well on the outside. Something I may do differently in the future would be to ask more questions and try to get the patients to open up more. Something that I did well was interacting with the patients, I think the best thing for me would be to just have some more experience with situations like these. I would say that I overall loved being in a pediatric unit helping kids with mental health disorders.