

N431 Adult Health II

Clinical Reflection Form

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Date: 02/27/2023

Clinical Rotation Site:

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

Being in the operating room initially was daunting. This nursing student was welcomed by everyone, from the nurse to the doctors and residents. Once comfortable, this nursing student witnessed two surgeries; a cholecystectomy and an appendectomy. This nursing student has never seen a human organ outside of a book. Both the gallbladder and appendix were smaller than a fist. This nursing student was allowed to touch both removed organs. The gallstones were solid and hard. The appendix was extremely red but also soft. Watching every step, from the patient informing you of their understanding of the surgery to transferring the patient to the PACU, was unforgettable!

2. What is one thing you learned?

This nursing student learned how everyone plays a role in the operating room and once everyone actively participates the process is seamless.

3. What is one thing you would do differently?

One thing this nursing student would do differently would be to sit during the surgical procedure as suggested by the nurse. The process was so intriguing it was difficult to sit.

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

This nursing student's major "take home" from today's clinical was record keeping. The operating room nurse has to document times from start to finish of the surgery, medication totals given to the patient, assist in counting surgical instruments and equipment, collecting specimens, packaging, and sending the patient's specimen after surgery.

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

The nurse was helpful and gave many positive words of advice and suggestions on handling a career in nursing. The CRNA was full of information, including tips, encouragement, and knowledge that this nursing student will take with her throughout her nursing career and beyond.