

N431 Adult Health II

Clinical Reflection Form

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Clinical Rotation Site: [OSF Oncology](#)

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

I really enjoyed my rotation in oncology. Although it was less nursing hands-on than other rotations, I feel that I learned quite a bit about oncology and even radiology. The staff enjoyed teaching and fostered a pretty great learning environment. When it come to providing radiation treatments, I was surprised that every patient was completely relaxed walking into it. One of the female patients who was receiving radiation in her breast spoke to me briefly about her experience, saying, "You know, you just get so used to this so quickly. I'm here all the time; these people are basically my friends now. We talk about our families and everything."

2. What is one thing you learned?

When a male patient was receiving radiation in his prostate, I found that entire experience to be very educational. Firstly, I learned from one of the radiation techs that the prostate is a fairly mobile gland, so all prostate patients have non-radioactive seeds placed as a guide for where to irradiate. This shocked me because 1) I did not know the prostate was so mobile and 2) I didn't know non-radioactive seeds existed. It was very interesting to say the least.

3. What is one thing you would do differently?

All the staff in the cancer center noted that Fridays are rather slow days, so I did not have as many hands-on opportunities as I'd have liked. Just having more chances to directly interact with patients in the cancer center would be the only thing I'd change for this experience.

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

Prior to this experience, I have always viewed cancer and oncology as very depressing subjects, especially in healthcare. However, this rotation opened my eyes to the fact that, although these patients have serious diagnoses, literally none that I interacted with were upset. In fact, they were all really happy to receive their treatment, and most were laughing throughout their visit. There was even a patient receiving radiation as part of comfort care, but she, too, was very happy.

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

I was initially a little nervous going into this rotation, but I'd do it again. I definitely think this rotation is an important one for nursing students to experience.