

N431 Adult Health II

Clinical Reflection Form

Name: **Dakota Clayton**

Date: **7/26/2023**

Clinical Rotation Site: **OSF Sacred Heart – Operating Room**

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

Today, my clinical experience was in the operating room working with perioperative nurses. The day consisted of three procedures – an appendectomy, an esophagogastroduodenoscopy (EGD), and a permanent dialysis catheter placement. While I contributed as much as possible, the day consisted mostly of observation. The nurses on the unit did a great job explaining the procedures and letting me help wherever I could.

2. What is one thing you learned?

One thing I learned was that while perioperative nurses have a more “9-5” schedule compared to nurses on other units, there is an expectation for perioperative nurses to be on call. This means that on rotating weekends the nurses on the unit cover call and can be called into work if an emergency surgery is needed.

3. What is one thing you would do differently?

One thing I would do differently is ask more questions. While I tried to ask as many questions as possible, it took me a while to get comfortable with the staff and feel comfortable asking questions. If I was to do the experience over again, I would start asking questions earlier in the experience.

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

My major takeaway is that perioperative nursing is extremely different compared to nursing in the ED, ICU, and on the floor. There are different skills that go into perioperative nursing, and it is imperative that the nurses have a good, professional relationship with the surgeons they work with. Working in the operating room is definitely something I'd like to do again.

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

The clinical experience in the OR was great and I look forward to doing it again!