

N431 Adult Health II

Clinical Reflection Form

Name: **Dakota Clayton**

Date: **07/10/2023**

Clinical Rotation Site: **OSF Cancer Center**

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

Today at clinical I observed at OSF's Cancer Center in Danville. During the clinical experience, I observed both oncology and radiation. In oncology, the nurses on the unit infused chemotherapy, iron, and potassium for cancer patients on an outpatient basis. In radiation, the radiology technicians provided treatment for individuals battling various cancers, including skin and prostate cancer. All the staff were very welcoming and answered any questions that I had.

2. What is one thing you learned?

One thing I learned was that nurses who work in oncology must be certified to handle and administer chemotherapy medications. This certification includes additional coursework, training, etc. and must be completed before the nurse can work with and administer chemotherapy without another nurse.

3. What is one thing you would do differently?

One thing I would do differently is talk to the patient's more about their treatment. The handful of patients that came into the cancer center were very talkative and we had good conversations. I didn't ask much about their diagnosis or treatment and could've learned more asking about things of that nature.

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

My take home from today's clinical experience is that oncological nursing is a unique specialty that works with a vulnerable patient population. It takes a special person to be an oncology nurse, and you need to have great people skills to succeed in the field. I would definitely be open to learning more about working in oncology.

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

The nurses and other staff at OSF's Cancer Center were great. They were very welcoming and encouraged me to ask as many questions as I wanted. I think it would be beneficial to have clinical time there earlier in the week, as the nurses said they are much busier during that time.