

N431 Adult Health II

Clinical Reflection Form

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Clinical Rotation Site: Critical Care Unit

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

I rotated to the Critical Care Unit and was assigned to one patient. My patient had Congestive Heart Failure exacerbation and was receiving multiple medications and Continuous renal replacement therapy due to fluid overload without urination. I assisted my nurse in providing medication, repositioning, checking vitals, placing an A tracker, and monitoring the continuous renal replacement therapy.

2. What is one thing you learned?

I did not know what CRRT (continuous renal replacement therapy) was until handling this patient. CRRT is very similar to dialysis, however this patient could not receive full dialysis treatment due to complications with congestive heart failure including extremely dangerous hypotension. The patient was placed on CRRT as an alternative option to assist in fluid removal due to the patient have a lack of urine output following admission. I found this very interesting and the nurse was highly informative during this process.

3. What is one thing you would do differently?

I do not think I would do anything differently. I was able to learn a lot about heart failure, fluid removal, and the care of exacerbation of congestive heart failure. I would like to collect more information about CRRT and learn different outcomes of this treatment. I wish I would have been more aware and prepared prior but felt like I was able to learn a lot during my time.

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

My major "take home" from my clinical experience is that there are many outcomes from congestive heart failure. Congestive heart failure has expected signs and symptoms that the patient may experience but everyone's experience is slightly different than another. I also found the CRRT very interesting, so I found that information to be useful to know that there are different options involving similar dialysis treatment.

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

I really enjoyed working on the critical care unit. I feel like I learned a lot during my clinical rotation there. The staff was very receptive to a student and the nurse took the time to explain everything we did and why. I think it was a very useful time.