

## N433 – Active Learning for NICU Shadowing Experience

Complete this Active Learning activity after your clinical with the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) Nurse. Submit your completed assignment to the dropbox within 72 hours of this clinical rotation (Monday @ 2359). **Be sure you look at the attached rubric as you write up this assignment because it must be written with accurate grammar, spelling, and APA format for references. Your score will be based on this rubric. Each question must contain at least 100 words minimum.**

1. How did you contribute to the service provided by the NICU nurse today?

The NICU clinical is more of a shadowing experience, so hands-on opportunities are limited. I contributed to the service provided by communicating with parents and showing up with an eager attitude to learn and ask many questions. One of the parents was visibly sad and overwhelmed watching her baby be prodded for a new IV (she had five sticks the day before). Finding the perfect vein and administering the IV took almost 40 minutes. The mother struck up a conversation with me, and I just kept it going in hopes to distract her and keep from crying. Luckily, it worked, and I could also see IV insertion through a cephalic vein.

2. What are the health risks of the population served during today's clinical based on your observations today?

Although my assigned nurse had only two patients, the other nurses were kind enough to give me a report on their patients and allow me to watch some of their assessments and active orders being carried out. Some of the health risks I got to see were prematurity, jaundice, skin infection (staphylococcal scalded skin syndrome), low birth weight, hyperbilirubinemia, and feeding difficulties. I also went into the "small baby unit" and saw an infant that weighed 1 pound and was born at 22 weeks. That infant faces the risk of having lifelong developmental deficits due to being born extremely early.

3. Choose one of the health risks identified in the above question and develop a plan of care to address this. Include a nursing diagnosis, a measurable goal (SMART), and at least three nursing interventions to achieve this goal.

- a. Nursing diagnosis: At risk for ineffective infant feeding dynamics related to infant's difficulty to feed (breath, suck, swallow) as evidenced by long feeding time 40min-1hr (Phelps, 2020).
- b. Measurable Goal: A measurable goal is to shorten the infant's formula feeding time by 10-20 minutes. This can be measured by keeping the baby on scheduled feeds, keeping a precise time record of when feeds began and ended, and recording the amount of formula consumed. This must be monitored daily to achieve a measurable goal of trends and progress of the infant's feed time.
- c. Intervention 1: Assess the infant's feeding and sucking pattern to detect ineffective patterns (Phelps, 2020).
- d. Intervention 2: Position the baby in a clutch or "football" position (if the cross-cradle hold is ineffective) during feeds (Phelps, 2020). The nurse explained that position was ideal because you can hold the bottle to the side of the infant's mouth when he starts to display difficulty with breathing, sucking, or swallowing. This also was the best position for him because he would vomit when he was held in the cradle position.
- e. Intervention 3: Conduct daily weights at the same time every day to detect any weight loss or gain (Phelps, 2020).

4. How will your experience during the NICU shadowing impact your nursing practice?

I absolutely enjoyed my NICU shadowing experience to the point where I wish we had another. It will impact my nursing practice because it is another department I am considering pursuing my nursing career in. I feel like I need to obtain more IV experience because when they were putting one in the baby, I felt slightly overwhelmed in the sense that I was contemplating if I would ever feel efficient and comfortable enough to place one in a neonate. I plan on taking more initiative to seek out IV insertion opportunities to get more practice on the adult floor.

## References

Phelps, L. (2020). *Nursing diagnosis reference manual* (11<sup>th</sup> ed.). Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.

**N433 Grading Rubric Nurse Shadowing Clinical Paper**  
**50 Total Points Possible**

<b>CRITERION</b>	<b>POOR</b>	<b>FAIR</b>	<b>GOOD</b>
<b>-Concise and Complete</b>  <b>Total Weight- 5 points</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Content is incomplete.</li> <li>- Major points are not clear and /or persuasive</li> </ul> <b>Weight-1 point</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Content is not comprehensive and /or persuasive.</li> <li>- Major points are addressed but not well supported.</li> <li>- Research is inadequate or does not address course concepts.</li> </ul> <b>Weight- 3 points</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Content is comprehensive, accurate, and persuasive.</li> <li>- Major points are stated clearly and are well supported.</li> <li>- Content and purpose of the writing are clear.</li> </ul> <b>Weight- 5 points</b>
<b>Critique of experience-Evaluation and Rationale for your comments</b>  <b>Total Weight- 10 points</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Organization and structure detract from the message of the writer.</li> <li>- Paragraphs are disjointed and lack transition of thoughts.</li> <li>- Lack of evaluation and rationale for comments</li> </ul> <b>Weight- 1 point</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Structure of the paragraphs is not easy to follow.</li> <li>- Paragraph transitions need improvement.</li> <li>- Lack of adequate evaluation and rationale for comments</li> </ul> <b>Weight- 5 points</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Structure of the paragraphs is clear and easy to follow.</li> <li>- Good evaluation and rationale for comments</li> </ul> <b>Weight- 10 points</b>
<b>Thoughtful Reflection-How will this affect your practice, or will it?</b>  <b>Total Weight- 10 points</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Paper lacks many elements of correct formatting.</li> <li>- Paragraphs are inadequate or excessive in length.</li> <li>- Unspecific as to how this experience will impact your nursing practice or not.</li> </ul> <b>Weight- 1 point</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Paper follows most guidelines.</li> <li>- Paper is over/ under word length.</li> <li>- Lacks some specifics as to how this experience will impact your nursing practice or not.</li> </ul> <b>Weight-5 points</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Paper follows designated guidelines.</li> <li>- Paper is the appropriate length as described for the assignment.</li> <li>- States clearly as to how this experience will impact nursing practice or not and why.</li> </ul> <b>Weight-10 points</b>
<b>APA Format Correct spelling/Grammar.</b>  <b>Must use 1 scholarly reference (published within the last 5 years)</b>  <b>Total Weight- 10 points</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lack of APA format.</li> <li>- Paper contains numerous grammatical, punctuation, and spelling errors.</li> <li>- Language uses jargon or conversational tone</li> <li>- Lack of APA citation use and a Reference page for references used.</li> </ul> <b>Weight- 1 point</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Inappropriate APA format.</li> <li>- Paper contains few grammatical, punctuation, and spelling errors.</li> <li>- Language lacks clarity or includes the use of some jargon or conversational tone.</li> <li>- Inappropriate APA citation use and a Reference page for references used.</li> </ul> <b>Weight- 5 points</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Correct APA format.</li> <li>- Rules of grammar, usage, and punctuation are followed; spelling is correct.</li> <li>- Language is clear and precise; sentences display consistently strong, varied structure</li> <li>- Correct APA citation and a Reference page for references used.</li> </ul> <b>Weight- 10 points</b>
<b>Nursing diagnosis is appropriate for this setting; goal/outcome is measurable; Nursing interventions are appropriate and thorough.</b>  <b>Total Weight- 10 points</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ND is inaccurate for the setting; goal/outcome is not measurable, and Nursing interventions are inappropriate or inadequate.</li> </ul> <b>Weight- 1 point</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ND accurate for the setting; goal/outcome is not measurable, OR Nursing interventions are inappropriate or inadequate.</li> </ul> <b>Weight- 5 points</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ND accurate for the setting; goal/outcome is measurable; Nursing interventions appropriate and adequate for this setting.</li> </ul> <b>Weight- 10 points</b>
<b>Paper submitted to dropbox within 72 hours of the School Nurse shadow experience.</b>  <b>Total Weight- 5 points</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Paper submitted to dropbox or discussion board late.</li> </ul> <b>Weight- 1 point</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Paper submitted to dropbox on time.</li> </ul> <b>Weight- 5 points</b>

Total Points \_\_\_\_\_