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N433 – Active Learning for Ambulatory Nurse Shadowing Experience

Complete this Active Learning activity after your clinical with the Ambulatory Clinic 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. You must receive 77% (38.5 points) in order to pass this clinical assignment. **Each question must contain at least 100 words minimum.****

1. How does this clinical site relate to the course?

- The clinical site relates to the course by allowing the student to shadow the typical routine of a clinic nurse practicing pediatric care. The facility offered services focused on family-centered primary pediatric care, adding acute care if needed. The student observed the clinical nurse assisting in acute care, administering vaccinations, performing screenings, checking for lead toxicity, and swabbing for COVID-19. The clinical site illustrated a real-world sense of nursing professionalism in direct patient care of pediatric patients and their parents. The staff was very welcoming to the nursing student and eager to explain the nursing processes of care. This clinical site excelled in giving the nursing student great experience with the role of nursing in pediatric care.

2. How were you an engaged nursing professional today?

- During the clinical shadow experience, this nursing student acted as an engaged nursing professional alongside a registered pediatric nurse by observing various methods of direct patient care. This nursing student directly engaged in conversation with both the patients and family members, helping to assist the nurse and CMA in collecting important patient information. This nursing student aided by gathering vital signs, height, and weight, and getting patients and their families settled in the room before the provider came. While the nurse was administering the vaccinations this student helped by using distraction to divert the attention away from the patient receiving the injections. This allowed the nurse to provide the appropriate care needed in a safer and more effective approach. This nursing student then provided the

families with packets of information including vaccine information that the nurse thoroughly explained before leaving the room.

3. How did you contribute to the service provided by the clinic nurse today?

- This nursing student contributed to the service of the clinic nurse today as previously mentioned by helping to keep a steady flow throughout the department. In between patients, this nursing student assisted in turning over rooms quickly by wiping down the beds, countertops, and chairs, and placing a new paper mat over the bed. Some patients were nervous or upset when seeing the nurse walk into the room with the vaccines in their hands, so this nursing student helped by giving stickers or suckers to distract them from what the nurse was doing. Overall, the actions of this student positively contributed to the services provided by the clinic nurse and CMA's.

4. Name 3 ways this clinical site impacts Pediatric health?

- One way in which this clinical site impacts pediatric health is by keeping pediatric patients on schedule and up to date with their vaccinations. The clinic offers vaccinations needed for children of all ages, also providing them with handouts and educating the parents on the vaccine or what to look out for if they experience any side effects. A second way the clinical site impacts pediatric health is by offering the option of acute care so that pediatric patients can be seen quickly for things that may take much longer and cost more than going to an emergency department. This gives families the option to seek immediate care and go back home. It also helps with pediatric patients and trust since they most likely have previously been cared for by the doctors and nurses who work there. Lastly, this clinic provides parents or caregivers with education on the daily care of their children, even offering a 24-hour nurse hotline number they can call if they have any questions or concerns. Some families cannot always find transportation to a hospital or clinic, so having a nurse operator who can access the patient's medical information and provide immediate answers or referrals to someone who may be able to help is very beneficial.

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

- Based on this nursing student's observations today in clinical, there were various health risks of the population coming in for medical treatment. The first patient that came into the clinic was a school-aged child needing their Tdap and Meningococcal immunizations. This patient had more of a routine primary checkup, received their vaccines, and left quickly. Another pediatric patient was an infant with a lot of nasal drainage that had an oxygen saturation of 90% on room air. The nurse assessed the

patient and proceeded to help clear the airway by suctioning out mucous. After suctioning, lung sounds were listened to, and oxygen saturation was rechecked to make sure it trended back up to a more acceptable level. The other patients that came in were there for routine checkups and physicals where the nurse did not perform any direct care.

6. Choose one of the health risks identified in question 5 and develop a plan of care to address this. Include a Nursing diagnosis, a measurable goal, and at least 3 Nursing interventions to achieve this goal.

- **Nursing Diagnosis:** Ineffective airway clearance related to excessive mucous as evidenced by decreased oxygen saturation (Phelps, 2022).
- **Interventions:** Suction, as ordered, to stimulate cough and clear airways (Phelps, 2022). Maintaining a patent airway will help to minimize the progression of respiratory distress. Administering oxygen, if needed, to promote oxygenation of cells throughout the body (Phelps, 2022). Performing postural drainage, percussion, or vibration to help facilitate the movement of secretions. Avoid having the patient in the supine position for extended periods.
- **Measurable Goal:** The patient's airway remains clear and allows for adequate ventilation with an oxygen saturation of at least 93% or greater on room air.

7. How will your experience during the Ambulatory Clinic job shadowing impact your Nursing practice?

- This nursing student who currently works in the emergency department as a tech will use the knowledge and experience learned shadowing in the ambulatory clinic job in future nursing practice. Working in the emergency department they see a wide variety of patients, including many pediatric. As a tech, this nursing student still does not feel very comfortable taking care of pediatric patients; however, this shadowing experience has given this nursing student more comfort in learning how to approach and interact with pediatric patients to provide a safer and more trusting environment. This clinical experience has provided this nursing student with insight into less emergent care of pediatric patients. The knowledge obtained during this shadowing experience will greatly impact the future care given by this nursing student to pediatric patients.

References

Phelps, L. L. (2022). *Sparks and Taylor's nursing diagnosis reference manual* (12th ed.). Wolters Kluwer.