

N431 Adult Health II

Clinical Reflection Form

Name: Tracy Donaldson

Date: 10/14/24

Clinical Rotation Site: Carle Foundation Hospital- Critical Care Unit

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

Today's patient experiences in the CCU were educational. I assisted in the care of three patients. The first patient suffered hydrocephalus and was hospitalized for approximately a month with an external ventricular drain because the patient's husband did not want his wife to undergo surgery for a shunt. Nevertheless, the day before my clinical, a shunt was eventually implanted. The second patient was an inmate who had had a stroke while incarcerated and was showing signs of left-sided parenthesis. Lastly, the third patient was an elderly man who would require a nursing home admission because of dementia and a potential stroke.

2. What is one thing you learned?

Ventriculoperitoneal shunts and external ventricular drains were two topics I learned about today. I was made aware that both were used to drain cerebrospinal fluid, but one was internal and the other was external.

3. What is one thing you would do differently?

I would have delved more into the patient with the shunt record if I had had more time to find out why the husband was opposing the wife's shunt surgery.

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

The life-threatening circumstances in the CCU vary from 100% continual care to less than 100% care, but frequent care, according to what I learned today. A very critical patient with numerous IVs and other problems was the subject of my first encounter with the CCU. In the end, he did not make it.

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

Today's experience went well mainly because I had a great nurse, James, who was willing to teach me without issues.