

Nursing 490 Clinical

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Today during our virtual clinical experience, we had the opportunity to participate in various aspects of the clinical setting. I began clinical treating patients in the Medical Surgical unit, there was a total of ten patients that had a wide range of medical diagnosis. This was an excellent opportunity for me to strengthen my clinical knowledge regarding different signs and symptoms associated with medical diagnoses. Prior to beginning my clinical assessment, I decided to write down several nursing diagnoses that were associated with the patient's medical diagnosis. This allowed me to form more thorough care plan and assessment in which I focused on the patient's most critical needs. While participating in this clinical I felt my clinical thought processing improved, I was able to understand why certain nursing diagnosis were associated with medical disease processes. I feel as though this will help me when I become a nurse, it will allow me to care for my patients with greater understanding. Following my medical surgical portion of my clinical experience I participated in medication administration. During the medication administration I had seven patients who were prescribed multiple medications, each medication had a specific time that it was to be given. While given each medication I ensured that each patient had a full set of vital signs, pain assessment, and reviewed the laboratory values. There were two patients who I did not notice were hypotensive and had beta blockers ordered. This was a great clinical experience to correlate when a patient is not stable enough to take a prescribed medication. I was able to contact the patient's physician and hold the medication which was one of my most successful moments during clinical. After the medication administration I was able to go to the Emergency Department and triage multiple patients. One thing that I noticed was different about being a triage nurse in the Emergency Department is that you ultimately control the flow of the entire Emergency Department. There were several moments during triage that I had two patients who were high acuity that I did not divert sooner, and this caused my score to decrease. Upon further evaluation I began to understand that when you divert a patient this is because you do not have enough room in the Emergency Department to provide immediate care for the patient. This decision must be made quick to assure that this patient receives adequate rapid emergent care. After triaging the most highly acute patients I was able to focus on those with lower acuity who did not require urgent medical attention. This was a great clinical experience because it allowed me to visualize how an Emergency Department nurse must triage patients that arrive daily and ensure they are placed in the appropriate room. After the Emergency Department clinical I was placed into scenario based medical surgical nursing. During this portion I placed in order the level of priority my response to the appropriate scenario. This was interesting because it forced me to critically think which is one of the most important aspects a nurse can develop. I enjoyed participating in all aspects of the virtual clinical, it allowed me to strengthen areas in which I was weak in. In further clinicals I will take my time when doing medication administration and when I am in the Emergency Department, I

will focus on the highest acuity patients and ensure that they are being cared for first. The quote that resonated the most with today's clinical is from Psalm 138:3 "When I called, you answered me; you made me bold and stouthearted". When we call on the Lord, we must have faith that he will answer our prayer and we must trust in the Lord for he is our strength.