

[Daniel Cedeno](#)

Dr. Thomas

Alliance University

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On 1/27/2023 we we're originally assigned Labor and Delivery but unfortunately the mothers were already in labor and changed their minds of students coming in to observe. We switched to newborn assessment. The newborn I was assigned to was a baby girl that was born on 1/25/2023 by c-section, weighing at 9 lbs,15 oz. We needed to perform an assessment on her, so then needed to ask the mother for permission. The mother only spoke Georgian, so we needed to use a translator. There was an issue finding one, so we ended up using google translate and she agreed to letting us assess her baby girl. We did take a while assessing her baby, so the mother did walk to the nursery because she did seem concerned. We eventually gave the baby back to her mother. My instructor allowed me to administer erythromycin ophthalmic ointment and IM injection of Phytonadione (vitamin K) to this other newborn. This is to protect babies from getting bacterial eye infections that can occur during birth. Untreated, these infections can cause serious problems including blindness. For the Vitamin K shot I had to clean thoroughly with the alcohol pad and inject in the vastus lateralis muscle in the anterolateral thigh. Vitamin K is needed for blood to clot normally. Babies are born with very small amounts of vitamin K in their bodies which can lead to serious bleeding problems.

This clinical experience definitely peaked my interest even more in regards to newborn care. As I mentioned last time, this is definitely something I see myself specializing in. My greatest accomplishment of the week was being able to be a little more hands on with the newborn during assessment. I just need to be a little more confident when handling the

newborns. I believe our communication skills went well with the mother. We were able to translate with no problem and we did apologize to her at the end of the assessment for taking longer than usual with her baby girl. We wanted to make sure she was comfortable and at ease knowing that her baby girl is doing well. One area that I can work on in the next clinical experience is practicing the count of the number of respirations and heart beats a newborn has. It was so fast it was hard to keep up. The instructor asked three of us to count for a full minute and then compare at the end. We ended with a different number of heart beats. It is important to have the same or very similar numbers for heartbeats and the same goes for the number of respirations. I used this biblical verse for meditation during my clinical experience "Have no fear of sudden disaster or of the ruin that overtakes the wicked, for the Lord will be at your side and will keep your foot from being snared" (Proverbs 3:25-26). The reason for this is because I was afraid while administering the Erythromycin and Vitamin K to the newborn. In the back of my mind, I was saying "I hope I don't hurt the baby". I remember that my instructor said that it takes a lot to hurt a newborn. For the next subsequent clinical experiences, I will have better confidence when it comes to newborn care.