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### Journal 1

This was my first week doing pediatric clinical. My patient this week was an 18 year old male, who is a quadriplegic. I did not get to see him much that day between him sleeping in, therapy, and his family visiting. I did however get to observe his nurse catheterize him. I was also able to assist in tracheostomy care and replacing the inner cannula for another patient on the unit. The greatest challenge I had during this clinical day was trying to get in to see my patient, but I made sure to check in frequently to see if there was anything I could help with. Being in this clinical placement was an inspiration to me. I have always wanted to specialize in pediatric nursing, but just one day at this hospital made that even more apparent to me. My greatest accomplishment during this clinical day has to be the amount of tracheostomy care I did. Doing it in real life is much different than doing it in the lab and I feel more confident having done it in the clinical setting. Overall I felt that my technical skills are where they should be, and each time I am able to perform a skill I become more and more confident. My communication skills have improved from when I began clinical a year ago. The biggest difference that I noticed in this setting was that when there is family around it is important to communicate not only to the patient but also to the family member. There is always room for improvement, I want to make it a priority to have my patients comfortable with me, especially with children their trust is very important. **Joshua 1:9** says, "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go." This

week I saw children who struggle everyday, yet they were not fearful instead they were brave. It is a great reminder of who our father is and what comfort he can bring us in our times of need.