

This week I had the opportunity to take care of a funny and intelligent 18-year-old patient. The patient was diagnosed with motor and sensory neuropathy, dysphagia, diabetes type 1 and many others. English was not the patient's first language, so initially it was a bit difficult to comprehend what he needed, but eventually we navigated a system and it was great to see the improvement and efficiency in care provided. I was able to learn about a different approach to determine the insulin amount needed per meal. Overall, this week's clinical was a good experience.

The greatest challenge I experienced during this clinical day was the fact that the patient was at school for most of the clinical shift. So, it limited the full head to toe assessment due to the patient being out of the room and unavailable at the time when I initially came in to perform the assessment.

This week, the growth I witnessed in all areas was an increase in gratitude. Taking care of a patient who was 18 years old. The age in society that most people wait for. The age of transition from childhood to adulthood. The age where many people start driving or get their first car. However, my patient at that age was confined to a wheelchair and admitted to a hospital, and those freedoms were not exactly the same for him.

Professionally, I just finished teaching yet another group of students who will go on to do great things. The Lord placed the desire to teach in my heart, and I could not have imagined the beautiful ways and opportunities that would accompany it. I get to receive a paycheck for being a part of making others dreams come true and encouraging them every step of the way. In all areas this week, gratitude for the desires the Lord has placed in my heart and the distance in which He has carried me is the area in which I grew the most. This week's clinical was for a course in a BSN program, and I am just so grateful. My greatest accomplishment of the week was learning how to complete a calorie and carb count. My patient has Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus, so prior to each meal, the nurse provided the formula for how to determine how much insulin would be administered according to what carbs and calories the patient intended to consume from the meal tray. While my bedside manner and rapport with the patient was great, it was my first time working with a pediatric patient who was mobile. As a result, I found it difficult to complete my head to toe assessment. I fed the patient while he was still in the bed, and then I had to leave the room. When I came back, the aide had the patient in the chair, dressed and preparing to leave for school. I had never been in that situation before, and performed poorly on assessing my patient's skin and being proactive about knowing his schedule, as I was unaware that he would leave the room for most of the day.

My interpersonal communication skills between the patient, staff and other students were good. My patient had a language barrier which initially caused some conflict in terms of understanding what he was requesting. With patience and active listening, I was able to develop a system with the patient to meet his needs. The aide, whose name fails me at the

moment, had several other patients to provide care for, so I asked her what tasks I could perform for my patient to alleviate some of her duties. Through teamwork, she was able to take care of her other patients, and my patient was able to have a bit more time to complete hygiene tasks and other activities that made him very happy before going to school. Also, my teacher and I were able to collaborate with the nurse for any tasks we could perform for my assigned patient which alleviated some of the work on the staff nurse.

While assisting the client with grooming and personal hygiene, I educated the client on the importance of maintaining good hygiene and how esteem and overall well being is positively impacted by it

I was able to identify two areas of improvement, which were as follows: Stay in the room after the nurse gives medication to perform head to toe assessment as patient is most likely still in the bed and learn the patient's schedule prior to starting my shift to ensure as many tasks as possible are completed without interfering with other activities scheduled for the patient. Pediatric patients seem to have several activities taking place, so it is important to get in where you fit in and ensure to capitalize on any opportunities to collaborate with another specialty, if needed, when care is being provided simultaneously.

"A man's gift makes room for him and brings him before great men." Proverbs 18:16 NASB1995. This verse impacted me, as the way that I ever learned about Alliance University is through my teaching job. The gift of teaching was the gateway the Lord used to lead me to enroll and have advanced to being able to provide care during a Pediatric clinical to such an awesome patient this week, and also to lead awesome students on their journey into the medical field.