

My clinical experience this week was the most interesting out of all of them. My patient was a teenager who needed assistance with feeding. While feeding the patient, they rolled away in a motorized wheelchair and avoided me until it was time for school. The nurse was also confused and asked if they were finished eating. The patient said yes and proceeded to leave the unit. I was very confused and a bit bewildered.

The greatest challenge I faced during the clinical day was getting the patient to come back to the room for an assessment. Assessing patients in the pediatric population, especially those who are mobile, was difficult.

Personal growth was not taking it personally when the patient left in the middle of feeding. Perhaps they were simply finished, and leaving is the routine with other caregivers. It did not necessarily mean that I did something incorrect. Spiritually, I was challenged to grow in the area of patience with myself and others. Professionally, I learned how to provide mouth care with suction. My patient needed a mouthwash, but would aspirate on the thin liquid. To avoid this, there is a suction attachment with a swab and tube to suction as mouth care is provided.

My greatest accomplishment of the week is finishing my last clinical for Pediatrics. It was so tough getting started in the beginning due to finances, so it was a blessing to see this come to completion.

The patient needed medication administered through a mickey and suctioning with oral hygiene. Both skills were provided efficiently and with competence.

The interpersonal communication skills between myself and the nurse were great.

However, I am not sure about my interactions with the patient, as they did leave. Prior to the patient's departure, we communicated very well.

The patient is on a puree diet. However, the cafeteria sent up pancakes that were not pureed. I explained to the patient that the consistency of the pancakes would potentially be difficult to swallow and could cause aspiration, so I would not be able to feed them to the patient, and that someone was checking on getting an actual puree option.

Speaking with the nurse regarding the patient's temperament and if any routines have been established surrounding activities of daily living. This will ensure that even though I am providing care for one day, the patient's schedule and routine is not disturbed.

“Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near”. Philippians 4:5 NIV. This verse impacted me the most because in everything I do, in a clinical setting or at the grocery store, I must operate in gentleness and a keen awareness of the Lord's nearness to return.