

This was our first week in pediatric clinicals, I was excited but nervous to start this new experience. I have a lot of experience with children, as I've been around them my whole life, which makes me feel a little more prepared to work with them, but it is still very new applying nursing care in this environment. I had a patient who was on a vent, used a G tube and had a brain injury, all things that were very new to me. The entire day I felt very hesitant and nervous because I just felt that I had no idea what to do. I started off by giving my patient a bed bath with the help of my classmate, changed his bed sheets, dressed him, and transferred him. I had given bed baths before, but it is much different giving a bed bath to an adult who can help you versus giving a bed bath to a child who is unable to do anything at all. After we transferred him from the bed to his wheelchair, I did oral care on him with suction, which I had also never done before. I watched him get occupational therapy, and assisted his nurse when it was time for his 12 p.m. medications. I took his blood pressure and heart rate before he got medication, and it was in normal limits, so his nurse administered the medication through his G tube. After he got his medication, we were able to start his 12 p.m. feeding so I was able to do that as well. My greatest accomplishment this week was just being able to practice skills I had not done in a real setting before and I look forward to practicing more skills and growing in my skills. I think I can do better to be less nervous in this setting now that I know what to expect and how to approach these patients more confidently. There are some things that are familiar to me such as the difference in the pulse oximeters for the children, and how to start a feeding, administer medication and flushing a G tube, but I would like to get more practice at these things to become more comfortable doing these things in the hospital. I'm glad my patient's father was such a gentle person and was very easy to communicate with, and I felt good being able to confidently speak to him and I hope I can learn how to better communicate with patients' parents or guardians in the future. The nurse I was introduced to was very helpful and easy to talk to as well and I was able to ask her any questions I had. The bible verse that helped me this week was Hebrews 11:1, "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see." This verse is special because it reminds me to stay faithful, and in my faithfulness to God I will be able to embrace the unknown. I think it is important in our relationships with

Christ to remember that we cannot know all the answers, and we will not always understand but to have confidence that the plan God has is what is meant for us. I don't look for answers all the time anymore, just signs that God is with me and that I am on the right path.