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NUR 392 Clinical Journal 4

4.12.23

This week we were able to care for two children, one child with pneumonia, and another child with bronchiectasis. The first child was a 9-year-old male, who also had a prior history of asthma, and was provided a nebulizer treatment. Unfortunately, the nurses had trouble bringing up his oxygen saturation. They provided him with humidified oxygen via facemask. He also had issues with his nutritional intake because he was not finishing him meals. This could have been due to his respiratory issues reducing his appetite. The second child was a 21-month-old female who was admitted for bronchiolitis. She was a sweet, compliant little girl. She did not put up much resistance while we examined her. One of my classmates was able to perform a rectal temperature. While it was being done, she did not cry or move a lot.

The most challenging aspect of the day was remembering the common side effects of the prescribed medications. While assessing our male patient, we asked him some of the symptoms he was experiencing after taking his medication. I was able to correlate some of the symptoms to his treatments, but not all of them.

In terms of professional growth for the week, I was able to reinforce my assessment skills by observing both patients.

My greatest accomplishment for the week was being able to properly assess my patient’s lungs and respirations. I performed a focused assessment on that system because his main issue was related to his lungs.

I would give myself a satisfactory rating for the skills that I performed this week. The skills included checking my patient’s respiratory system as well as abdominal region.

My communication skills this week also improved, because I was able to converse with the parent of the child. We provided slight education about her son's condition and how the treatments work to resolve them.

As always, I can always improve my knowledge of medications that are preferred for certain conditions. This week, I was familiar with most of the drugs prescribed, but had trouble remembering their side effects.

This week, the verse that effected me was Psalm 59:9. It states "you are my strength, I watch for you; you, God, are my fortress, my God on whom I can rely." This verse reminds me that anything is possible when I rely on God.