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Journal #4

This week I had a patient who had a lot of issues due to being born prematurely. She was so sweet and although she was non-verbal, I was able to communicate with her through drawing and coloring. She was able to point out things from the non-verbal chart in her room and I was able to somewhat recognize her needs. I learned a lot of skills this week. I was able to use a doppler to find out my patient's systolic blood pressure. Because she had an LVAD placed, there was no diastolic reading. I was able to see how the phlebotomist draws blood from my patient's tiny veins. I also performed straight catheterization on a male patient. I thought it would be difficult, especially keeping my station sterile, but I was able to complete it without any mistakes. One thing I really enjoy about Pediatrics clinical is that I get to float around to other patients. I am always doing something, whether it is bathing or cleaning a tracheostomy. I also feel a little bonded to my patients because they are long-term patients. Seeing them weekly makes me feel like I know them. The greatest challenge I had was not wanting to hurt my patient. We were to give a subcutaneous injection for my patient, but I ended up asking my classmate to administer it instead. I felt that because we bonded, I had no desire to hurt my patient. I know that I shouldn't feel bad, but I did not want to hurt her. I believe that this will be my greatest challenge as a nurse. I must keep reminding myself that patients rely on medication to make them feel better, even if it temporarily painful. My greatest accomplishment this week was performing the catheterization without having to do any do-overs. One thing I can improve on is asking my nurse good questions and to do better on my concept maps. The Bible verse I

chose this week is from 2 Timothy 2:3 (ESV), “Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus.” I chose this verse because I believe that even though things get difficult, I can share the burden with my classmates. As I am entering Finals week, I feel more anxiety. I know that my classmates and professors are here for me and that we will get through this semester together.