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Journal 3 Peds

My clinical experience for this was a young girl who was experiencing dehydration due to excessive and worsening diarrhea and vomiting. She presented to the ED with vomiting and diarrhea, and clear signs and symptoms of dehydration and electrolyte imbalance. Her symptoms were progressing due to the fact that she had a fever and had not voided. This is a very serious condition in children, so getting my patient on IV fluids and checking her electrolytes were a top priority. Her vital signs were not within normal limits and elevated, she was also not very responsive and not A&O. My patient was started on IV fluid to begin to replenish the electrolytes she had lost. I was able to demonstrate nursing skills and management by making sure my patient got all the necessary fluids and medications to prevent her from getting worse. Series of tests were also ran to make sure there was no underlying cause like an infection or parasite was causing my patient to not being able to keep anything down. I was in constant communication with the HCP, the patient's mother, and healthcare team on my patient's condition and if there were any changes. Communication is key because it is not just one person on the healthcare team, it is a collaborative effort and everyone has a say in the patient's care. Everyone on the team has to know what is going on at all times, even if they are not always present so that they can make decisions about the patient's condition and how to manage and treat it.

I always learn skills I can apply in real life situations for patients when I do a Vsim because it prepares you for the real life high stress situation without all the panic that comes with it.

The verse that stuck with me is Matthew 18:10, “Beware that you don’t look down on any of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels are always in the presence of my heavenly Father.” This verse states that the little children are very important to the Lord, that no one should look down on them because they are children. Being in a peds clinical makes me value children’s life even more so, because they are God’s heart and it breaks my heart to see them like this on earth. It only makes me want to care and speak on their behalf even more.