**Summary of progress (Discuss concepts identified in the course, learning plan progress, skills)**

I was able to learn a lot of valuable things from the clinical shifts I have had so far. I had more opportunities to apply nasal canula’s on patients and better understand how to monitor and adjust oxygen levels in patients with increased level of carbon dioxide, COPD, and sleep apnea.

I also observed insertion and removal of foley catheters in males and females’ multiple times which helped me understand what to be careful about and how to perform these tasks to reduce any harm or pain (such as having the patient cough to help distinguish the urethral meatus from the vagina, and having the patient breathe in and removing the catheter on exhalation).

I got the opportunity to administer oral medications and learn about important nursing tasks before and after giving those medications.

I was able to recognize ways to reduce medication errors such as checking the medication names and expiry dates at three different times before administration and taking the time to calculate correct doses for medications. I also learned to make sure that a medication is broken in half if appropriate (for half doses).

Furthermore, I observed multiple complex dressing and got to perform one simple dressing, from which I learned many important sterile techniques.

Additionally, I learned about the roles of interprofessional team members by observing physiotherapists and their method of providing care; observing physicians and how they communicate with patients; observing the role of pharmacists, and dieticians. I also observed interprofessional roles such as that of a charge nurse, training nurses, and RPNs and senior RNs as well.

Moreover, I was able to get proficient in taking vital signs and performing perineal care, and bed baths by using every opportunity I had to complete those tasks for patients. I also learned and applied effective ways to reposition patients with total knee arthroplasty and hip replacements and understood the importance of implementing those techniques. Additionally, I became proficient in head-to-toe assessments and recognizing normal and abnormal findings in patients. For example, I learned from a physician that crackles will be heard in patients with atelectasis (and other respiratory conditions) even after medical treatment, however, we should ensure that their crackles do not increase or that the patient’s condition does not worsen.

Furthermore, I gained a deeper understanding of prioritizing patient's care needs and creating effective, evidence-based care plans. I was also able to accomplish partial or all of the SMART, short-term goals I created for my patients. In addition, I educated patients on the importance and technique of certain psychomotor skills such as using the incentive spirometer, and doing deep breathing and coughing exercises. I participated in health promotion activities by encouraging patients to sanitize their hands after using the washroom, drink more water, brush their teeth, changing patient gowns and bed sheets, ensuring patient's bedside tables are clean and organized, and their room's floors are free of clutter. I was also able to collaborate more with my patient’s nurses during this clinical experience and listen to shift reports. This helped me became better at using the SBAR method to communicate patient information with nurses.

Lastly, I demonstrated collaboration by working together with my patient’s nurses and fellow peers while doing perineal care, repositioning patients, and obtaining vital signs.

**Strengths (Things you did well consistently):**

Inmy opinion therapeutic communication, professionalism and critical thinking have been my strengths thus far in clinical.

I believe therapeutic communication is my strength because I pay attention to details about my patient and what makes them happy or sad including their interests. This way, my patients feel like they are important and understand that I care about what is important for them. Having this understanding allows me to build a trusting relationship with my patients. Additionally, I am able to identify what techniques are most effective for my patients by talking to family members and then I apply those techniques to attain better patient outcomes. For example, instead of saying take a deep breath in and exhale completely, I said “smell the roses and blow out the candles” which I learned from a patient’s daughter. This helped the patient feel more comfortable, happy and understand me better.

I have consistently demonstrated professionalism by listening to my clinical instructor’s instructions, adhering to my scope of practice as a student nurse, asking questions when I need clarification and by doing my best at every task I am assigned to do. I also ensure that I am always in professional attire and have all the tools I need.

I believe critical thinking has been my strength so far because I was able to correctly identify and prioritize the most important care needs for my patient in my clinical worksheets. I also used new ways to interview with my patients such as asking (social, cultural, personal questions in the clinical worksheet) in a fun way so that my patient’s do not feel intimidated and enjoy sharing their personal information with me.

**Areas for Improvement/Growth (Things you need to work on): Must be addressed in your learning plan for the next clinical experience**

In my opinion, I can improve in my complex dressing skills and try to find more opportunities to do complex dressings. I would also like to find opportunities to insert and remove catheters in the future so I can enhance that skill as well.

**Midterm assessment by Instructor**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Summary of progress (Discuss concepts identified in the course, learning plan progress, skills)** | Eman continues to successfully work towards meeting all competencies for NURS 2522.Eman consistently demonstrates her understanding and knowledge of infection control practices by wearing appropriate PPE and following infection control practices of WRH. She is aware of where to identify isolation precautions within Cerner and can identify and understand signage on the unit. She completes nursing care rounds per WRH policy and maintains safety precautions and hip precautions for those identified patients.Eman did well with her experience and came prepared with her Medication Administration Worksheet completed in full and was able to answer various medication and critical thinking questions. Great Job Eman!Eman has successfully completed her learning goal for patient education at mid-term through discussions with patients regarding the importance of personal hygiene and hand hand washing. Eman consistently completes AM care with her patients or assists the patient and their family through the process. Eman has also provided instruction on the use of Incentive Spirometry with ongoing follow up throughout her shift.Eman will continue to develop her end of shift hand off report and will do so by continuing to observe SBAR report for patient care transitions during the discharge process.Eman continues to demonstrate her evolving critical thinking ability through her clinical work sheet submissions, discussions with myself on the unit with medications/lab/diagnostics and during post conference discussions. Eman engages weekly in self reflection and incorporates relevant scholarly articles to support her discussion.Eman continues to take part in followership activities by assisting staff on the unit with their patient assignment when able and works as part of a team in a inter-professional collaboration between various disciplines such as OT and PT. |
| **Strengths (Things you did well consistently):** | Eman continues to submit her clinical worksheets in a timely manner and they are completed in full. She identifies appropriate learning needs for her patient and formulates relevant priority diagnostic statements, priority care needs and her plan of care with relative ease. Eman identifies all relevant laboratory and diagnostics that are pertinent in the care for her patient and continues to critically analyze them with assistance from her instructor.Eman consistently demonstrates professionalism in the clinical setting and comes prepared for her clinical shift with her clinical worksheet completed, dressed in appropriate attire and ready for the clinical day. She communicates well with her fellow peers, instructor, staff, patients and their families. Her calm and caring bedside manner allows her to develop therapeutic communication with her assigned patient and their family. She is always willing to assist others in the clinical setting once her work is completed and also asks for assistance when needed. She is aware of her limitations as a second year nursing student and practices within her scope. |
| **Areas for Improvement/Growth (Things you need to work on): Must be addressed in your learning plan for the next clinical experience** | Continue to seek out new learning opportunities to further enhance your learning in the clinical setting and to meet your identified learning goals for the semester (Complex dressing change and patient education). I encourage you to incorporate laboratory and diagnostics into your patients care plan to further develop your clinical reasoning skills. When your patients are being discharged home, please continue to observe the discharge process from beginning to end so you have an understanding of all the variables that are involved in this process (medication reconciliation, printed vs. faxed prescriptions, discharge note and orders from physician). |