

MID POINT INTERVIEW

Student's self-assessment/reflection on progress:

Reflect on your overall progression referring to your personal learning needs, professional values and proficiencies. Identify your strengths and document areas for development.

Knowledge:

Using the British Association of Dermatologists I have been able to do my own self study and revise on common skins conditions and some of the medications I have seen in the day to day clinics, doing this has started to give me a good basic knowledge and understanding. By asking the nursing specialists, I have been able to gain a small knowledge on potent creams and steroid creams that are used for children and adults. I have been able to see a successful patient journey, I was able to see the patient for patch testing for 2/3 days, and was able to help identify with the doctor what the patients irritants were, and also understand how to make up the patch tests, I was then able to see the patient a few weeks later, for a successful discharge. I have been able to give patients their aftercare, after surgery independently, using the information leaflets to prompt me I have been able to use my knowledge to advise the patient how to look after. I have been going with the dermatology specialist child nurse to her clinics on a Wednesday afternoon, I was able to see a young patient for the second time with his mum and see his improvement of his skin condition, this young patient struggles with applying creams because he finds it overstimulating; I was able suggest creating a story for the child that they went through together, and made into a role play that involved applying his creams through the story role play, to try and draw attention away the over sensory feeling it causes him, and also try to involve him with applying his creams so he feels he has control. The specialist child nurse told me how well I did during our clinics, and said it comes naturally to me interacting with children, and helping calm him down. I really enjoyed being in the child clinic, and made me feel, although I don't do child nursing, I was able to really engage and interact with the child clinic and help come up with strategies to work around sensory issues with the creams, before starting my degree, I worked with young children and teenagers with learning difficulties, mainly children with autism spectrum disorder and Asperger's syndrome, therefore I have an understanding on children who have over sensory problems, and the difficulties they may have with smells and textures, which is why I was able to come up with possible strategy to try and help take away from the over sensory problems and make the situation seem fun. When working with one of the doctors in clinic she gave me some opportunities with the patient to have a look at their lesions under the dermatoscope, what they felt like, and with the knowledge I have gained from revision, and then asked me what I thought it was, we did this on four occasions and three out of four of them I was correct with the diagnosis I though it was

Skills:

I have been able to develop my skills of venipuncture/taking blood specimens, under supervision of my assessor I was able to successfully and safely take my first set of bloods with her support, and I managed to do this in my first attempt, and the patient was very happy with my technique and said there was no pain. I have been given the chance to use a dermatoscope to analyze patient lesions, and with the revision I have been doing, and the clinics I have been working in I have been able to start recognizing characteristic to different lesions. When in surgery I have been able to help assist with the specialist nurse, with occasional guidance from a HCA while doing this I have been able to maintain their sterile field while getting them the equipment they need; I have also been able to sign in and out the patients, and ensure all the correct paperwork is filled in, I hope in the up coming weeks that I can do this independently. I was given the opportunity to scrub up, in surgery and help assist the specialist nurse perform surgery. This was only a small role, but I maintained a sterile field which is important when around an open wound to prevent introducing infection. I held pressure to the wound to stop excessive bleeding while the nurse was preparing sutures, and I also cut all the sutures down to the correct lengths. Under supervision of the specialist nurse I was able to do a suture removal, aseptically, I was able to recognize there was no signs of infection and that the wound was healing nicely, to ensure the wound was closing appropriately I removed every other stitch and then when myself and the nurse was happy the wound was still closed nicely I continued to remove the left over sutures until they were all removed; I was then able to redress the wound with steri strips and a cosmapore and gave the patient further instruction of taking care of the wound. with my own knowledge from revision, under the damatascope and by touch I was able to look and feel patient lesions, and use these skills to work out what these were and then discuss this with the doctor.

Attitudes and values:

I was originally really nervous to start my placement on the dermatology unit, I felt the first few days were overwhelming with learning all the general day to day running's of the clinics, all the new terminology I had to adapt too, I was worried that its was going to take me a while to adjust to an outpatient clinic, and understand dermatology as a whole, but after the few days-first week I feel like my attitude has really changed, I no longer feel overwhelmed or worried and feel I am really starting to fit in to the team, and I am even more inclined to learn all the different skin conditions, procedures and medications, I have utilized my free time to start revising the common problems seen in clinic so I have a better knowledge and understanding when in the clinics with my patients. I feel that I have an enthusiastic attitude towards dermatology, and expressed to my assessor and ward manager how happy I am to be here; because before coming to dermatology, I only thought of the skin as pressure sores and wound care, where as now I feel like I've expanded my knowledge on the skin, and how much there really is to learn, and no matter what or where I go in the future as a registered nurse this placement will forever benefit me, and I will have a good understanding of the skin and recognize things others may not, and view the skin more than just pressure. I really value the experience I am gaining on dermatology, it has enabled me to think about the emotional and physical stress and wellbeing skin conditions may cause a person, and how to really sympathize for what an individual is going through. I have even received a compliment that was sent to the chief executive of the hospital (attached in my communication section) a patient sent regarding the care myself and some other professionals had given to her, and what a positive experience she had with us (me) I have a professional attitude to learning, and follow the trust policies inline with the universities. I have maintained safe practice throughout, and when unsure I have asked help from my assessor, and the educational link.

Practice Assessor's comments:

Discuss with the student their self-assessment and comment on their progression using the criteria for Assessment in Practice Descriptors, detailing evidence used to come to your decision.

Knowledge:

■■■■■ came to this placement showing a keen interest to learn and displaying a quick and inquiring mind. Her natural interest in people and the science behind medicine has led her to take a real interest into this specialty allowing her to learn all aspects of dermatology care. ■■■■■ has had experience in our theatres - where we treat patients for excision of skin cancers or diagnostic biopsies. She has been able to work on her lesion recognition, inflammatory skin conditions and some of their treatments. ■■■■■ has progressed so much during this placement from being a novice in an outpatient environment to running clinics independently alongside our clinicians. Her dermatology knowledge has greatly grown and believe ■■■■■ will be able to transfer much of this to her nursing care in any working environment.

Skills:

■■■■■ has shown from the start a caring and compassionate nature. She has been able to use this well within Dermatology in her communication skills. She has interacted within the team extremely well and has become a reliable member of our team during her placement. She also communicates well with our patient's and their relatives alike. ■■■■■ has also developed with her clinical skills including gathering experience in aseptic technique, venepuncture, assisting with local anaesthetics and topical treatments. She learns and listens well, can take instruction and reflects well on all experiences to enhance her practice.

Attitudes and values:

■■■■■ confidence has grown massively over her time with us. She is comfortable and able to assert herself within the multi-disciplinary team to ensure patient care is of a good standard and to also ensure clinics run smoothly and effectively. She is able to ask when she needs help and always works within her own limitations safely. She is a courteous person with all and this, combined with her compassionate nature, shows great promise for the future nurse she will become.

Mid-Point Review

Following the Mid-Point interview the student is to identify their learning and development needs for the remainder of the placement and negotiate with their Practice Assessor how these will be achieved.

Learning and development needs	How will these be achieved?
I would like to continue expanding my knowledge on different skin conditions and the medications we use to treat them	I will continue to use the British Association of dermatologists website in my own time to revise the common skin conditions that I see in clinic. As well as asking questions when appropriate to understand medical terminology used
I would like to continue practicing my venipuncture (blood taking) skills	It was discussed that I may be able to spend some time with the phlebotomist, if not I would really like to spend sometime in the Bloods clinic to become more confident at this skill
I need to ensure I get feedback from registered professionals to support my evidence	I will prompt professionals I have worked with to write me feedback for my assessor to see
I have began to learn about different types of skin cancers, and how they progress, but would like to continue to learn about what they look like and their characteristics	When given the opportunity to, I would like to look at lesions under the dermatoscope and identify characteristics and then continue to follow this up with my own revision
Gain more knowledge on phototherapy; UVB and PUVA	when given the opportunity i would like to spend some time in phototherapy, and gain a knowledge in this area of dermatology. I able to and with consent I will sit in on pre assessments, to listen and absorb the information that is talked about and the assessments that are used. when able and if allowed i would like to complete an assessment with support of the nurse. to gain some knowledge I would like to take some of the information leaflets home to read up and research on phototherapy
If allowed, I would like to assist in surgery independently	I will continue to assist with support from a HCA but eventually like to do this independently when the surgery nurses feel this is appropriate
If I am allowed, and also feel confident enough by the end of placement on dermatology I would like to be more involved with the Polyclinics; It would be nice if I could fill out the paper work, and gather the patients relevant history about them and their lesion, and with support from the nurse or doctor have a look and try and identify the lesion before then getting the doctor to look and either agree or disagree with what I have said	I will continue to sit and listen in the polyclinics, to learn the information that is asked, and documented down, as well as getting opportunities to look at the lesion through the dermatoscope
Assist the nurse in surgery.	When given the opportunity I will scrub up and maintain a sterile field to prevent infection. I will help assist the nurse with any role they are willing to give me
Suture removals, dressings and further after care	When able to I would like to help in the suture removal clinic for patients unable to get to there GP for removal, I would like to continue practicing aseptically removing sutures with the correct tools and then advising patients how to further look after their wound