

Victoria Perry

Tasha Candela

Career Field Experience

30 November 2016

Beaumont Family Medicine Center

*You make a living by what you get, but you make a life by what you give. ~ Author*

*Unknown*; this quote speaks volumes to me because the Career Field Experience I endured dealt with medicine and giving people all that they could not give themselves. It dealt with nurses caring for patients, doctors practicing medicine, medical assistants treating patients and many more people providing for those who were not at their best point. These people are in careers where their living is based upon them giving quality care for specific individuals. They are giving people the care that they cannot currently give themselves which is a great lifestyle to have. These people are helping others to the best of their abilities and they have gone through a tremendous amount of training in order to be able to do that for people. They took time out of their lives when they could just had done something that did not involve helping people, but they decided to practice medicine. In my Career Field Experience class, I was required to observe nurses, medical assistants, and sometimes doctors and perform tasks such as retrieving an individual's blood pressure and temperature or talking to patients to calm them down when they were going through a difficult procedure. I also got the chance to receive connections within the placement that will benefit me greatly in the future. In my personal opinion, Career Field Experience is a unique class that has given me the experience I have always dreamt of. I always wanted to shadow in a medical environment to see if medicine was the right field for me and I

found that. It has allowed me to do something that most individuals would not had been able to do until nursing or medical school. For thirteen weeks I have assisted the staff when it came to anything medical such as helping them draw up shots, taking a patient's blood pressure and temperature, or calming patients down when they were going through certain procedures - especially the little children getting their vaccine shots. As I reminiscence about my experience in this class, I will strongly emphasize on three particular skills I have acquired or improved during my time such as professionalism, willingness to learn, and leadership/management skills.

I improved my professionalism skill working with this company because everyone there must act professionally and perform task professionally; I already have a job that requires me to be professional so taking part in this experience has

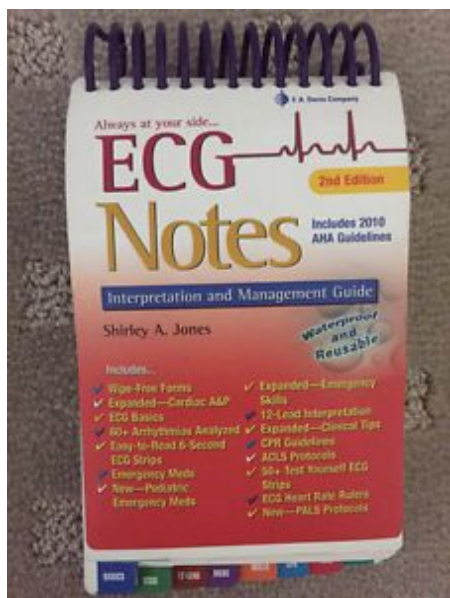
improved that skill of mine. When I would work under a medical assistant, and sometimes even a doctor, I would act in a manner that would not be provocative in that environment such as keeping quiet when the patient is asking questions or when the



doctor/medical assistant is performing a task that needs complete concentration. I would speak when the time was appropriate and I made sure to keep jokes at a minimum and appropriate when around the staff. I did not want to disrespect them whatsoever when it comes to talking when they're talking or making inappropriate jokes; I know the time and the place for things like that and there was certainly not an appropriate place. I kept up with my timesheets and made sure they were accurate and also spoke privately with my coordinator whenever I or she had any questions; I made sure to get everything done when they needed to be done. I was also very

confident after practicing for a while when it came to taking patient's blood pressure which was something I was not so confident about. Once the time came around, I began volunteering to take patients' blood pressure as soon as they entered the room so I could show how confident I was when it came to performing such as task on my own; I showed the staff that I was dependable when it came to that as well.

Another skill set that I improved was my willingness to learn whenever there was a chance to. In an environment such as a medical center, there are plenty of opportunities to learn something one has possibly never of heard of before. There were so many procedures and terms that I never heard of before and it was amazing to be able to gain such knowledge at an earlier

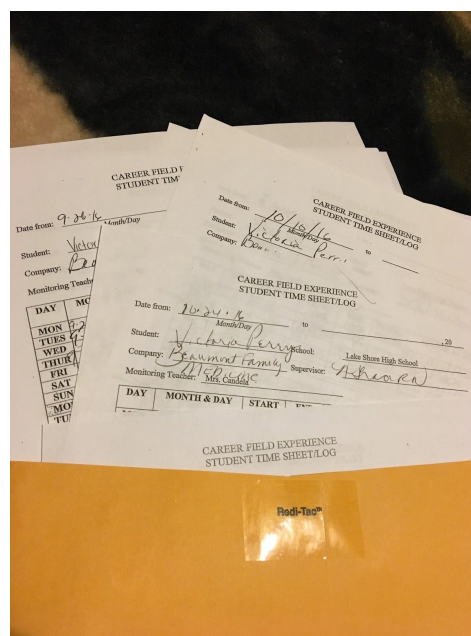


stage in life than what I will experience later on in possibly college or most likely medical school. There is this one procedure called a nexplanon implant that is another birth control contraception that is put in the upper arm and now I've personally started looking into it myself. I got to watch the procedure get done by a doctor and it was really interesting and neat how she performed it because she had certain equipment set up for it and she performed the task so easily - I guess that's because she has been a board-certified

obstetrician/gynecologist for years. I always asked questions even if they were dumb questions that probably could've been answered with a simple Google search; the staff still answered my question and smiled as if they were happy I even decided to ask questions. I remember times when I would work in Infusion and the nurses and I would learn about a new disease that was

either extremely rare or somewhat common and we would search up the disease to get more information on it to understand the patient better. It was a really nice thing to do because it showed them that I am interested in this field and love learning new things especially when it comes to medicine. I loved how helpful the environment was where I worked and how they were willing to let me learn as much as possible. I have always had a strong will to learn new things; that is why I decided to go into medicine in the first place because I'll be constantly learning new things and applying that knowledge into my career.

I acquired the leadership skill at my work environment because I was at first not a really strong leader; I didn't really do things myself and preferred if someone else do it for me or with me. As I continued to work at Beaumont Medicine Center, I gained the leadership skill by taking charge in situations and doing things when I needed to do them on my own. I also began to ask things for myself rather than having people ask for me; for example, one medical assistant always asked the doctor if I could observe her procedures because I was too afraid of being rejected and told no, but as I progressed in that area, I began to ask the doctor myself if I could watch her perform a specific procedure and learn from it. I gained a back bone if I say so myself and am proud of it. I am still working on my leadership skill and hope that as I continue to grow as an individual, it will grow with me.



My final evaluation was not that surprising to me; I was pretty self-confident that I excelled in particular areas and knew there were areas that I needed improvement on. I scored majority of fives and fours and some threes in one part. My work initiative has always been something that I needed to work on and I'm surprised I even got a decent score on that. I notice that I do not take charge sometimes when I am suppose to, but I believe I have improved in that area ever since I began interning at Beaumont. I think I'll be able to get that to a five by the end of the year as I continue to grow as a person and learn when I should take action when I'm suppose to. That was possibly my weakest area out of the entire evaluation. My strongest area varies because I scored fives on a lot of the areas, so I believe my strongest area would have to be my interaction with others. I always communicate with anyone even if I don't know them personally; I speak when spoken to and speak when I believe is an appropriate time for conversation. I loved talking to the people there because they were so friendly and helpful and shared the same interests as me (medicine and helping people) and it was nice to be surrounded by adults who like the same thing as me because they are who I'll be in the future. I'll be a caring, compassionate, loving doctor who treats her patients from her heart and soul rather than treating them from a business women's viewpoint. I don't want to treat my patients like clients or customers; they're humans who are not feeling their best and it's my job to put them back at their best since they cannot do so themselves. That's why whenever I would be in the same room as the patients, I would try to joke with them and make them laugh so they didn't feel uncomfortable at the doctor's office. I interacted with them as if they were human instead of someone who may be at their weakest point right now and cannot help themselves so they have to get help from someone who is just viewing them as a customer giving them all their money.

Overall, my weak point was work initiative and my strong point (to me) was interaction with others.

The class changed me as an individual by showing me what I'm going into in the future and how happy I am that I've decided to spend my life helping others rather than not helping at all. It has showed me to appreciate life and all who is there for me because there are people in this world who needs someone to be there for them, and I plan to be that type of doctor; the kind to always be there for my patients when they need me to be. A moment I'll never forget is when I was observing a procedure being done to a patient and how the patient was extremely scared and in pain from it, so I held her hand the entire time throughout the procedure as I watched it take place. I got to learn from that procedure and also care for someone who needed me to be there for them; it was possibly one of my favorite experiences because it was nice to know that I helped her when she wasn't able to help herself. I would recommend this experience to a friend because this was a great opportunity; it allowed me to do things and see things that I probably would not had been able to see/do until college or medical school. It also showed me different careers in medicine that I must appreciate and will always appreciate. I didn't know that medical assistants basically do the doctor's "dirty work" like giving shots to people and vaccines to kids; I always thought either the doctor or nurse does it themselves but now I see it's different, so I've learned to appreciate all careers in the medical field because they all come together and work as a team. My next step into my journey is to go on to college as I major in either Biology or some other type of science related course and concentrate on pre-medical programs that'll help me to my journey to medical school; I'm extremely excited and extremely grateful for this opportunity and I hope someone else gets the same chance I did so they can figure out if medicine is right for

them and is something they really want to do. Career Field Experience has helped me realize that medicine is right for me and being a doctor is something I must do because this world needs good doctors and I plan to be just that.