



Ascension Southeast Michigan

Student Nurse Observer Guidelines

As a student nurse at Ascension Southeast Michigan Hospitals, you may have the opportunity to observe a patient experience in an area other than the clinical unit you have been assigned to. You represent yourself and your school of nursing when you are completing the observation. Please be advised of the following expectations:

1. **CONDUCT:** It is important to be respectful, professional and quiet when observing. You may assume responsibilities that are within your scope of practice as a student nurse **and have been agreed upon by the nurse in charge of the area you are observing.** This should be established upon arrival of your observation. As an observer, you are not permitted to perform procedures on patients.
2. **CLOTHING:** Your school uniform is required with school badge visible.
3. **PERSONAL VALUABLES:** We recommend that all valuables be left home. The hospital cannot be responsible for loss of articles.
4. **COLDS:** Do not attempt to go into a special observation when you have a cold or any infectious disease because the patient must be protected from unnecessary exposure to infection.
5. If you should begin to feel faint or nauseated during your special observation sit down immediately and call for help. This should not be an embarrassment to you, in fact it happens often.
6. If you have any concerns after your special observation, please address them as soon as possible with your faculty so timely follow up may occur.

Your responsibility as an observer is one of the many student nurse experiences that will help you understand how to care for your patient in a more holistic way and observe how the health care team functions seamlessly as a unit.

By following these suggestions, it is hoped that your special observation will be valuable and enjoyable. Good luck!!

The Clinical Professional Development Department

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Faculty Signature: _____ Date: _____

[Faculty: Please send Affiliate Program Clinical Educator a roster of dates, units and student names with any observation experiences. Retain this form with student files for this facility. For further information on the clinical experience, please refer to policy: *Clinical Experience for Affiliate Nursing*. Students.]