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Clinical Integration Reflection #1

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In the first week of clinical rotation I realized how fast paced this work environment is. It is very team oriented and it's mostly organized chaos. I went into clinical placement without any expectation because I knew whatever I thought it might be was probably not how it actually would turn out. I was pleasantly surprised with how much team work / effort there was among the technologists. When they were not short staffed there was usually at least two techs per case. Something I wasn't expecting was how much of each department each tech knew. I went in thinking that they had a full time Fluoro or OR tech. But all the techs are very flexible and move around all the x-rays departments.

Patient care is a very high priority. Ensuring patient comfort and adapting to each patient is so important. Watching the way the technologist spoke with the patient was very inspiring.

I got to see first hand how creative techs have to be. Every patient is very different which causes the techs to know how to adapt to every type of situation. Fast critical thinking is something that all the technologists have and something I definitely will need to work on.

After nine weeks of observing multiple different types of technologists and what they have to endure each day, it gave me a deeper understanding of what this role will include.

My idea of what a technologist did changed immensely. A technologist isn't someone who just pushes a button. They are the backbone of medical imaging. They are such an important department in the hospital. Every type of patient comes through their doors. They invest themselves into each patient and exam. They use so much of their knowledge and critical thinking skills. All typically within a span of ten to fifteen minutes. I am excited that this is the career I choose and that I will get to make a difference in someone's medical experience.