MRAD 358 Clinical Integration 1 Reflection#1 – forms part of quiz #1 (15%)

Reflection: Experiences in the Clinical Environment

Reflections are designed to encourage you to think critically about your experiences, apply theoretical knowledge to practical situations, and develop your professional identity as a medical imaging technologist.

Topic: Experiences in the Clinical Environment

Reflect on your first few weeks of clinical placement in medical imaging. Consider the following points:

1. Describe your initial impressions of the clinical environment. How did it compare to your expectations?
2. How has your understanding of the role of a medical imaging professional evolved through this initial clinical experience?

Before beginning my clinical rotation, I was honestly very nervous about entering the clinical environment, I expected there to be a large amount of information that I should have already known before arriving at the hospital. I worried that I would be expected to know a lot of things ,like positioning patients correctly operate the Xray equipment efficiently, and main an effective workflow similar to an experienced technologist. Because of the expectations, I felt anxious about making mistakes or slowing down the department. However, once I stated my placement, my experience was very different from what I had imagined. The technologists were welcoming, patient, and supportive, and they understood that we were students who were there to learn. They allowed us to develop our skills by providing guidance and feedback to help improve our positionings. Instead of expecting lots, they encouraged questions and treated mistakes as learning opportunities. This created a positive environment where I felt more comfortable building confidence in my abilities. One of the things that stood out to me most was how organized and efficient the workflow in the imaging department was. I learned how examinations are prioritized and how communication between technologists, radiologists, nurses, porters, and other healthcare professionals helps ensure that patients receive the care they need in a timely manner. I also observed the amount of preparation involved before each examination, including reviewing requisitions, preparing equipment, and planning the workflow for each case. Seeing how the department organized these tasks gave me a greater understanding for the importance of teamwork and communication. Through this clinical experience, my understanding of the role of a medical imaging professional has evolved significantly. Before my placement, I primarily viewed the role as operating image equipment and producing images. I now understand that medical imaging professionals play a much larger role in patient care. They are responsible for ensuring patient safety, providing reassurance and clear communication, helping with diagnosis, adapting exams to patient needs, and working closely with the healthcare team. This experience has made my interest in this career stronger and also giving me a clear understanding of the skills, professionalism, and compassion required to be a effective medical imaging professional.

Word count: 350-450 words

Reflective Writing Rubric

Criteria	1 Point	2 Points	3 Points
Critical Reflection	Basic understanding of topic	Some reflection, with basic analysis	Deep reflection with thoughtful analysis
Application to Practice	Limited connection to medical imaging practice	Clear connections to medical imaging practice	Insightful application to medical imaging practice
Writing Quality	Basic writing with some clarity issues	Clear writing with minor errors	Well-written, clear, and concise