



How to Document Clinical Experiences

You may either create a new heading for your clinical experiences or list your clinical experiences as a subheading under the “Education” header.

The goal is to document the simulation and hospital clinical experiences that support your objective statement. In most cases it is not necessary to list every area you’ve been in. (The only exception is Baylor as they want to see a list of all your clinical areas.) Because you will not be listing every clinical rotation, you may want to title this section “Related Clinical Experience” or “Relevant Clinical Experience”

You can either group your experiences by specialty area (Pediatrics, Med/Surg, etc.) or by where the rotation was done (e.g. Odessa Regional Hospital).

NOTE: It is important and appropriate to include experiences you have had in Simulation as these were very valuable learning experiences.

Be sure to make a note of areas where you will be gaining experience during your last semester, such as your Immersions assignment. This can be done by adding a notation. (See example below)

It is not necessary to list all the clinical skills you have mastered. Instead, the purpose of the clinical experience section is to show a sampling of your experiences, as well as sharing some of your experiences that would predict the type of nurse you will be. Begin each task with an action verb. Be specific in your examples.

Some things you might want to include are:

- A few tasks that you performed that show your ability to provide good care at the bedside.
- A specific example of a time you used good communication skills with a patient or family, such as by offering emotional support, or educating a patient.
- Include less obvious experiences, for example an experience contributing to a time you showed compassion.
- Think about skills you used or experiences that were unique to you.
- Think about skills that were specifically related to the area you want to work.
- Give an example of a time you used one of your strengths (being a good listener) or utilized a characteristic that would be important in the area you will be applying (such as compassion if you want to work in palliative care; calming down anxious parents if you want to work with children).
- Also include skills you performed under the supervision of an RN.

Sample formatting and sample bullet points:

Organized by Specialty Area

PICU, University Medical Center (Level III)

- Assisted with a PICC line placement on a ruptured appendix patient
- Assessed an infant with atrial fibrillation on a heart monitor

Additional 72 hours in PICU during Spring of 2017

Labor and Delivery, University Medical Center

- Helped coach and encourage the mother through labor
- Observed the contraction monitor and helped the nurse set up oxytocin, and increase the dosage as needed, per the nurses instructions

Pediatrics, F. Marie Hall Simulation Center, Summer 2016

- Assisted child with nebulizer treatment, educated the patient and his family on home use, and provided encouragement to the parents who were anxious about the diagnosis
- Utilized distraction and playing to a pediatric patient who was awaiting surgery
- Placed cardiac telemetry leads on pediatric patients and assisted in monitoring cardiac rhythms

Organized by Location

Hendrick Medical Center, Abilene Texas

Fall 2017

Labor and Delivery

- Empowered patients and family member to participate in their plan of care
- Incorporated communication techniques to enhance continuity of care
- Monitored fetal heart tones throughout labor and delivery

TTUHSC Simulation Center, Abilene, Texas

Fall 2017

- Inserted Foley catheter while preserving patient dignity and encouraging technique to minimize discomfort.
- Consulted Social Services on behalf of pediatric patient presenting with symptoms consistent with shaken baby syndrome.

Additional 96 hours in Labor and Delivery during Spring of 2017