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**Michigan League of Nursing and Michigan Council of Nursing Education**

**Administrators Scholarship Essay**

When asked to describe my most memorable client, a vivid picture of a girl, not much older than myself at nineteen years old, comes to mind. This occurred in my first couple of months as a volunteer in the Post Anesthesia Care Unit at Ingham Regional Medical Center.

Each day that I volunteer, I read the surgery schedule to familiarize myself with the medical terminology and surgeries that are being done, and if I don't know what a term means I will ask a nurse that I am working with. On this day, I was skimming through the schedule and I came across a surgery called D & C Suctioning<sup>1</sup>, which I had seen before, often paired with a hysteroscopy. I asked a nurse what it meant, and she explained to me that it was a procedure done to remove something from the uterus, whether it be excess blood, or a fetus from a previous miscarriage or abortion.

I noticed that the girl who was having this procedure was only twenty two years old, and the whole time that she was recovering in the PACU her Doctor, Anesthesiologist, and different Nurses had all come to see her and how she was doing. I asked her nurse, Carrie, who is a nurse that I am very fond of, if the girl was an employee at Ingham, figuring that is how everyone knew her. Carrie told me that the girl had had this particular procedure because she had miscarried a child, and that she was very shaken up about it. She had been asking so many questions what would happen next, was upset and scared, and had only her boyfriend there with her.

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<sup>1</sup> Dilation and Curettage: Dilation of the cervix and curettement of the endometrium.  
Stedman's Medical Dictionary for the Health Professions and Nursing

Later, after Carrie and I had transported the girl to her room, Carrie told me that because the girl had been so shaken up, she asked the girl's doctor to write her a note for a week off of work. For some reason, this gesture really made an impression on me because physically, the girl probably could have been back to work the next day, but emotionally she was exhausted. I realized that being a Nurse isn't just about physically helping people. It is about making the patient feel as well as possible, both emotionally and physically. It is about making a difference in this person's life, and I know that I will always remember this event throughout my entire nursing career.

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## Reference List

1. "Dilation and Curettage." Stedman's Medical Dictionary for the Health Professions and Nursing. 5<sup>th</sup> Ed. 2005.