

## **Week 2 Discussion: Reflection on Cultural Awareness**

### **Reflection Question:**

- Reflect on how to apply cultural awareness to communication in your current clinical practice.
- Share an example of miscommunication that occurred as a result of this diversity and whether an adverse outcome resulted.
- Describe how the miscommunication could have been and will be prevented in the future.

Professor and Class,

I think exposure to different cultures plays a big factor in one's cultural competence. I lived in Illinois for the majority of my nursing career. However, I started travel nursing all around the southern US a few years ago. In Illinois, it was rare to get a patient with different cultural practices than my own. I believe the only culturally different patient I had in Illinois was a Jehovah's witness patient. In Texas, it is much more common. I often (very often) find myself with patients who are Hispanic, speak little to no English, and are very leery of medical treatment.

I recently had a Hispanic patient that had a tumor removed from her thigh that was 5lbs in weight. The patient's physician stated that she waited a long time to seek medical attention. Healthcare facilities may often be a Hispanic person's last resort. This could be because they