Blog week 2 – Fanny Cléroux

Tuesday April 22, 2025: After a long weekend, it was finally time to go back to work. I am starting my second and final week here at Douglas in Perry 2A. Today was very calm and no activities were planned except an outing in the yard for 3 patients, which I accompanied with a patient attendant (*préposé aux bénéficiaires, PAB*). Other than that, I advanced my project. I added some methodology information in my paper and filled out my observational grid with the observations I made so far. Since I have a new person to interview in the unit (a psych educator with whom I am doing my internship), I created some questions for her, and the interview will take place Friday.

Wednesday April 23, 2025: Started my day with the reading of a pre-evaluation for criminal responsibility. This psychiatric evaluation will take place tomorrow (don’t know if I can assist yet, patient might not be comfortable with me there or could be “aggressive”). I updated my observational grid as well as my final output (I refined my methodology). I also got to assist to a meeting with staff from another unit in Douglas to come up with a concrete and helpful solution for a patient with whom they keep having issues with. In the afternoon, there was a cooking activity orchestrated by the mom of a staff member. The residents (who had registered) had the opportunity to cook and eat some pasta with the help of the volunteer (great for future autonomy when they leave Douglas because they cook something different every week).

Thursday April 24, 2025: This morning, I worked on transcribing the first interview I conducted before the 5-week period. I also tried to join a group meeting with the residents and the walk, but both were cancelled due to last minute changes. In the afternoon, I went to assist to another psychiatric evaluation with Doctor Perreault (the team decided I could assist to the one at 1:30pm but not the one at 3pm), but the treating team did not have high hopes that the patient was going to show up due to their known past “ghosting”. We still waited for about an hour and during that time, I had the chance to read the final paper for the client evaluated on week one of my internship. The client was declared NCR which was a decision that was still blurry directly after the initial evaluation. After this, I went to back to Perry 2A (the evaluations are always in the emergency unit) to assist to the “cantine” where the residents have their special snack for a small price. I helped the person in charge and made the residents sign their bill for the last weeks. I also had the chance to talk for a while with two members of the staff with whom I hadn’t really discussed with before which was super enriching since they’ve been here for quite some time. I also learned that many patients flee, more times than we’d think.

Friday April 25, 2025: This morning I got to assist (the patient accepted that I stay in the room) to an evaluation to determine the risk of violence towards others as this patient had a history of violent events. It was interesting and my supervisors are now going to come up with recommendations for his future placement in a supervised home. After this, I worked on my observational grid and perfected my interview questions once again. At 1pm we went over to the urgent care to meet with yesterday’s patient that did not show up. The client was present, on time, with their mom. We had the meeting to (Dr. Perreault, Camille Gadrat and me with the patient and their mom) to determine if the patient was CR or NCR. The discussion was short as the doctor already had a good idea of what his statement was going to be since his file was very complete. The patient was comprehensive but since they had a history of violence, we were careful to check if the doors were unlocked, we had a panic button and we were calm. After this meeting, we came back to Perry 2A and I interviewed Camille Gadrat (the main supervisor of my internship) and Angelique Barriault (criminologists in the clinic). I then said thank you to everyone since this opportunity was great and I am very grateful!