



The Fading Pulse: A Nurse's Story

by Instructional Designer



The emergency room buzzed with activity. Nurse Jordan, fresh into her shift, stood ready. Suddenly, a frantic wife rushed in, supporting her husband, Mr. Alvarez, who clutched his chest, his face pale with pain.



Jordan sprang into action, immediately beginning the primary assessment. Following the ABCs, she noted his labored breathing and weak pulse. She quickly applied oxygen and connected him to a cardiac monitor.



Recognizing the signs of a possible heart attack, Jordan swiftly communicated with the charge nurse and the physician using the SBAR format. She relayed the critical information, ensuring everyone understood the urgency of the situation.



Under the physician's orders, Jordan expertly established IV lines and drew blood for crucial tests. She prepared to administer medication, thoughtfully pausing before giving nitroglycerin, recognizing his low blood pressure.



As treatment began, Jordan carefully monitored Mr. Alvarez. His vital signs began to improve. The color returned to his face, and his pulse became steadier, a testament to her quick actions and critical thinking.



When the cardiac team arrived, Jordan provided a concise handoff, using the ISBAR format. She ensured the team had all the necessary information for a smooth transition, demonstrating her commitment to continuity of care and the well-being of her patient.