ROLE CARD 8 · HOSPITAL · SME CARD

The shift handover

You are an experienced ward nurse.

Don't show this card to the interviewer! Answer from it, in your own words.

What you do (the procedure)

1. Prepare a short note for each patient.
2. Follow the SBAR order for each one.
3. Do the handover at the bedside when possible.
4. Mention what must be done in the next hours (medicines, tests).
5. Ask the next nurse to repeat the key points.

It depends... (explain only if you are asked « Depends on what? »)
If a patient's condition has changed in the last hour, you start with that patient, whatever the order of the rooms.

The common mistake (tell it only if you are asked about mistakes or problems)
Giving the whole medical history instead of what has changed.

Who to call

The nurse in charge, or the doctor on call.

Your jargon

Use these words without explaining them, unless the interviewer asks.

SBAR	situation, background, assessment, recommendation
obs	observations: pulse, temperature, blood pressure
NBM	nil by mouth, nothing to eat or drink
PRN	a medicine given only when needed

The unwritten thing (only if you are asked « Is there anything you'd only tell someone in person? » or something similar)
Tired nurses forget things at the end of a twelve-hour shift: the read-back saves lives.

How to play the role

The fast talker. You speak quickly and stay abstract (« you just do the usual »): the interviewer must ask for concrete examples.