

# Covenant School of Nursing

## Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment

### Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Inna Purser      Date: 01/26/2024      DAS Assignment # 2

Name of the defendant: Patricia Sue Cross - Brooks      License number of the defendant: RN 706023

Date action was taken against the license: 10/21/2021

Type of action taken against the license: Probated Suspension

- *Use the space below to describe the events which led to the action(s) taken against the license. If multiple charges were in play, be sure and cite them, e.g. drug diversion, HIPAA violation, abandonment, forfeiture on student loans, etc.*

There were multiple actions made by a Registered nurse Patricia Sue Cross - Brooks, that led to charges being brought up against the license. The initial incident occurred in January 2021 while she was working at Medical City, Arlington Texas. The Registered nurse failed to correctly monitor fetal heart rate with an external neonatal monitor, exposing an expecting patient and her unborn baby to possible harm or injury.

The external fetal monitor was disconnected for period of 10 mins while the patient was in a bathroom without an accompanying nurse, and a period of 8 mins following the above-mentioned patient returning to the bed. The nurse stated that the patient had a bathroom privileges, so she stepped out of the patient's room to let another colleague to start and IV access on the patient.

Furthermore, Patricia Sue Cross – Brooks failed to address patient's complaint and concern about having a severe abdominal pain and elevated blood pressure with a physician, which in this case caused a uterine rupture. By the time, the patient was transferred to Department of Surgery for emergency Cesarean section, no fetal heart rate was detected, and neonate has passed away.

The Registered nurse Cross – Brooks failed to document a consultation with a physician competently and precisely that in return caused harm and injury to the patient and neonate.

- *Use the space below to provide a description of measures you think could have prevented any action being taken against the license and/or would have prevented harm to the patient, if harm occurred.*

I'm convinced that the Registered nurse Patricia Cross - Brooks could have prevented a probated suspension with multiple stipulation that was brought up against her license if she simply were mindful of patient's concerns, followed the standards and protocols set by the medical facility she worked at that time, and genuinely were a patient's advocate. RN's actions led to detrimental distress and trauma to the

patient and her family, which caused neonate's demise. This outcome could have been prevented by the RN, if she followed the universal competencies. An experienced registered nurse, as Mrs. Cross – Brooks has been, would have continually monitored patient and her unborn neonate's conditions and should have reported any abnormal findings in vital signs or possible laboratory bloodwork results to the caregiver on call in a timely manner. Even insignificant delay in taking actions could possibly result in detrimental trauma and life-threatening injury to a patient.

- *Identify ALL universal competencies were violated and explain how.*

There were multiple Universal Competencies violated in this case, that led to legal charges being brought up against the RN license. First and foremost, the registered nurse lacked an adequate engagement of Critical thinking. The nurse was not assessing patient's symptoms and her continually changing condition in a timely manner. Mrs. Cross – Brooks did not properly and accurately prioritize important tasks and procedures that should have been executed. The registered nurse should not have abandoned the expecting patient even for a short period of time without monitoring system in place. Furthermore, the RN did not intervene nor communicate severely abnormal blood pressure to the physician, that, in return, caused a substantial injury to the patient and the baby.

- *Use the space below to describe what action you think a prudent nurse would take as the first to person to discover the event described. In other words, you are the one who discovers the patient has been harmed by the nurse or you have discovered the impairment or criminal activity cited in the disciplinary action.*

A prudent nurse should report the witnessed infractions to the charge nurse and the physician. Moreover, either the charge nurse or the nurse who discovered the critical complication to a patient would have a responsibility to report the medical malpractice done to a patient to Texas Board of Nursing for further investigation.