

Covenant School of Nursing

Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment

Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Crystal Melendez

Date: 8/10/19

DAS Assignment # 2 (1-4)

Name of the defendant: Jeffery Clark Boynton

License number of the defendant: RN 717616

Date action was taken against the license: 08/11/15

Type of action taken against the license: Warning with Stipulations

Use the space below to describe the events which led to action 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.

Jeffery Clark Boynton was a staff nurse at Northeast Methodist Hospital in Live Oak, Texas when charges were first taken against his RN license. While employed, he was placed on the SICU department. The first incident occurred early January of 2007 as Boynton forgot to notify the physician of a high blood glucose level for patient V00207593. This could have put the patient at risk of developing adverse reactions and not receiving the proper treatment.

In addition, Boynton also decided to “increase the rate of an Insulin infusion” for the same patient described previously without a proper order from the physician. Again, this put the patient at risk of complications by bringing down the patient’s blood sugar too low, too quickly. He proceeded in documenting the administration of Insulin at the rate the physician had originally ordered. Falsifying the medication rate that was administered, could affect the patient’s treatment and clinical decisions significantly. According to Boynton, he assumed since the patient was receiving the Insulin via drip order, he did not need to notify the physician of the adjusted flow rate.

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.

Regarding the actions Boynton performed against his patient, it is evident that they could have all been prevented and handled a different way. The first incident was failing to notify the physician of a high blood glucose. Boynton could have immediately notified him/her after assessing and documenting it on the patient’s medical record. In addition, I believe it was absolutely irresponsible of him increasing the rate of the patient’s Insulin infusion. Boynton should know what a nurse can and cannot do. As nurses, we need to follow medication orders as received. However, if we question the administration of a medication we must also be able to take it up to our physicians or other personnel who ordered it. This would have prevented Boynton in falsely documenting the rate of administration for the Insulin infusion as well. A good refresher of nursing roles and management of patient care would be great for Boynton in this case.

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.

As a prudent nurse, I would have discussed with Boynton in how he was treating and taking action with the patient's elevated blood glucose levels. In addition, this is a good opportunity in reminding him what our nursing roles are and what effective patient care looks like (e.g. not changing the rate of Insulin to be administered). Of course, the Charge Nurse would also be notified about his behavior and the incidents that have occurred, since some were critical towards maintaining effective patient care.