

Covenant School of Nursing

Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment

Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Brynne Barker

Date: 10/4/2020

DAS Assignment # 1 (1-4)

Name of the defendant: Linda Morris

License number of the defendant: RN 590600

Date action was taken against the license: 06/29/2011

Type of action taken against the license: Voluntary Surrender

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.

Linda Morris voluntarily surrendered her professional nursing license after admitting to misappropriation of Hydrocodone and also taking it for her own benefit. She took these opioids while working and put her patients in danger because of her addiction. Morris performed drug diversion in that she, "misappropriated Hydrocodone from the facility or patients thereof or failed to take precautions to prevent such misappropriation. Respondent admitted to taking Hydrocodone and produced them from her pocket."

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.

In this situation, if Morris could have admitted she had a prescription drug problem she could have potentially received the treatment she needed before taking care of patients and putting them at risk; however, I do know in most situations nurses who are diverting drugs will only come to this conclusion once they have been caught.

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.

In this situation, if I had discovered Morris taking Hydrocodone for her own benefit, I would have gone up my chain of command and informed my charge nurse and nurse manager. Since she was taking a high amount of the prescription opioids, I would not confront her on the spot as that could potentially cause her to act out and put patients' safety at risk.