

Covenant School of Nursing
Disciplinary Action Summary Assignment
Instructional Module 2

Student Name: Brynne Barker

Date: 10/11/20

DAS Assignment # 2 (1-4)

Name of the defendant: Amy Lynn Whittington

License number of the defendant: RN 639992

Date action was taken against the license: Warning with Stipulations, Deferred

Type of action taken against the license: 7/21/2011

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.

Amy Whittington was working on the L&D floor when she failed to assess her patient's low blood pressure. The patient had a blood pressure of 49/26. Whittington did state she checked on the patient around 30 minutes after noting the low blood pressure and reported the patient having "slowed respirations". This is when she called for help and another nurse noticed the patient was experiencing agonal breaths and the patient then needed to be resuscitated after a code blue was called. The patient was transferred to the ICU where she did recover. Whittington was not critically thinking in this moment and failed to recognize that the patient's blood pressure was extremely low and failed to intervene in the moment to do something to help stabilize the patient.

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.

If Whittington would have realized the patient was experiencing hypotension in the moment, she could have taken the necessary steps to see why it was so low and done the appropriate actions to get the patient back within the normal range. Since she did not realize this, the patient was put into harm and almost died because of it. Her nursing license was not suspended however she did receive a warning and had to complete certain educational courses to better her critical thinking skills and nursing knowledge.

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.

If this patient was one of mine, I would have done something immediately after noticing such an extremely low blood pressure like notifying the charge nurse and the patient's provider. I also would have checked the patient's oxygen saturation.

